ATLAS MAN COMICS

BOB BRANT AND THE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS!

MAN COMICS

10¢

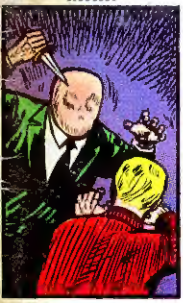
JUNE

No. 27

JOIN BOB AND HIS TROUBLE-SHOOTERS AS THEY TACKLE A

"ROCKET TO THE MOON!"

"THE FACELESS MAN!"



"DEATH IS A SPY'S REWARD!"

YAHOO! HERE COME THE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS!

AMERICAN BRATS! WE'LL WIPE YOU OUT! NO ONE CAN STOP OUR PLANS OF CONQUEST! UGH!

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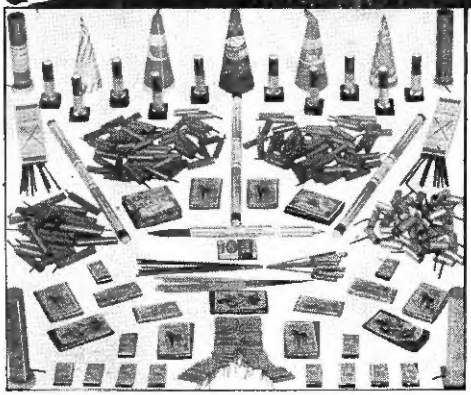

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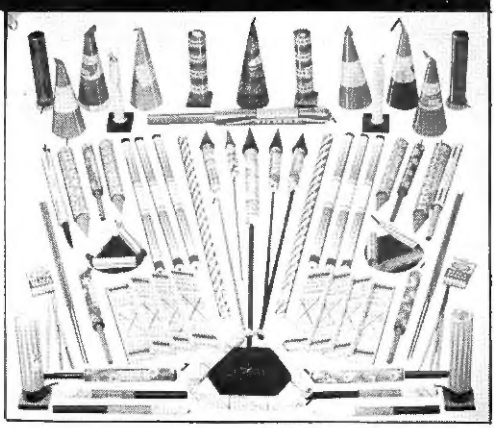

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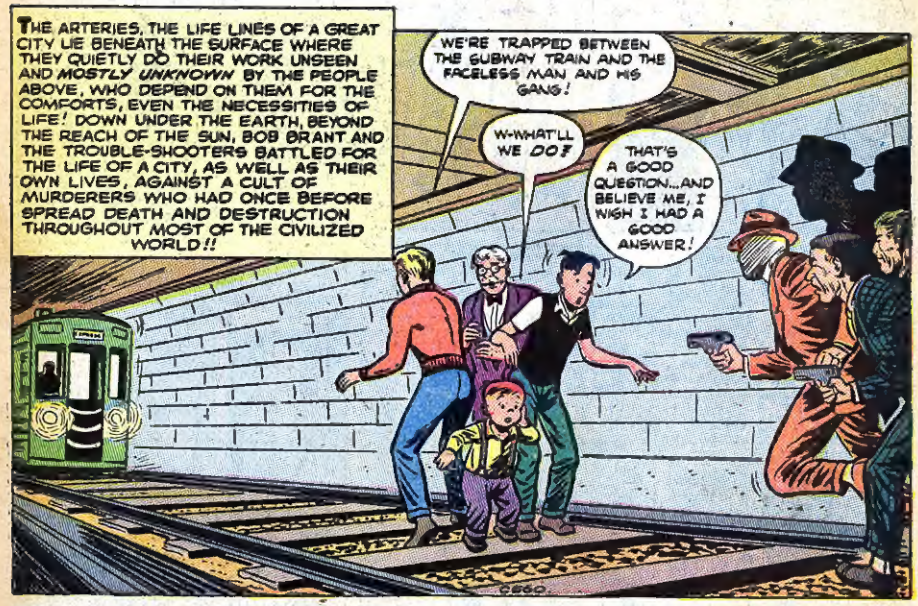
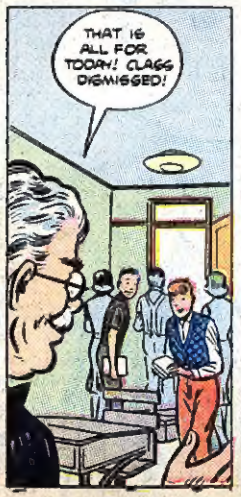
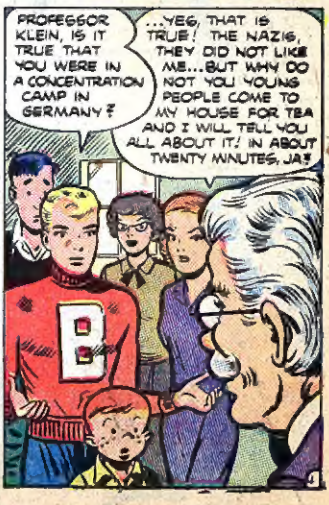
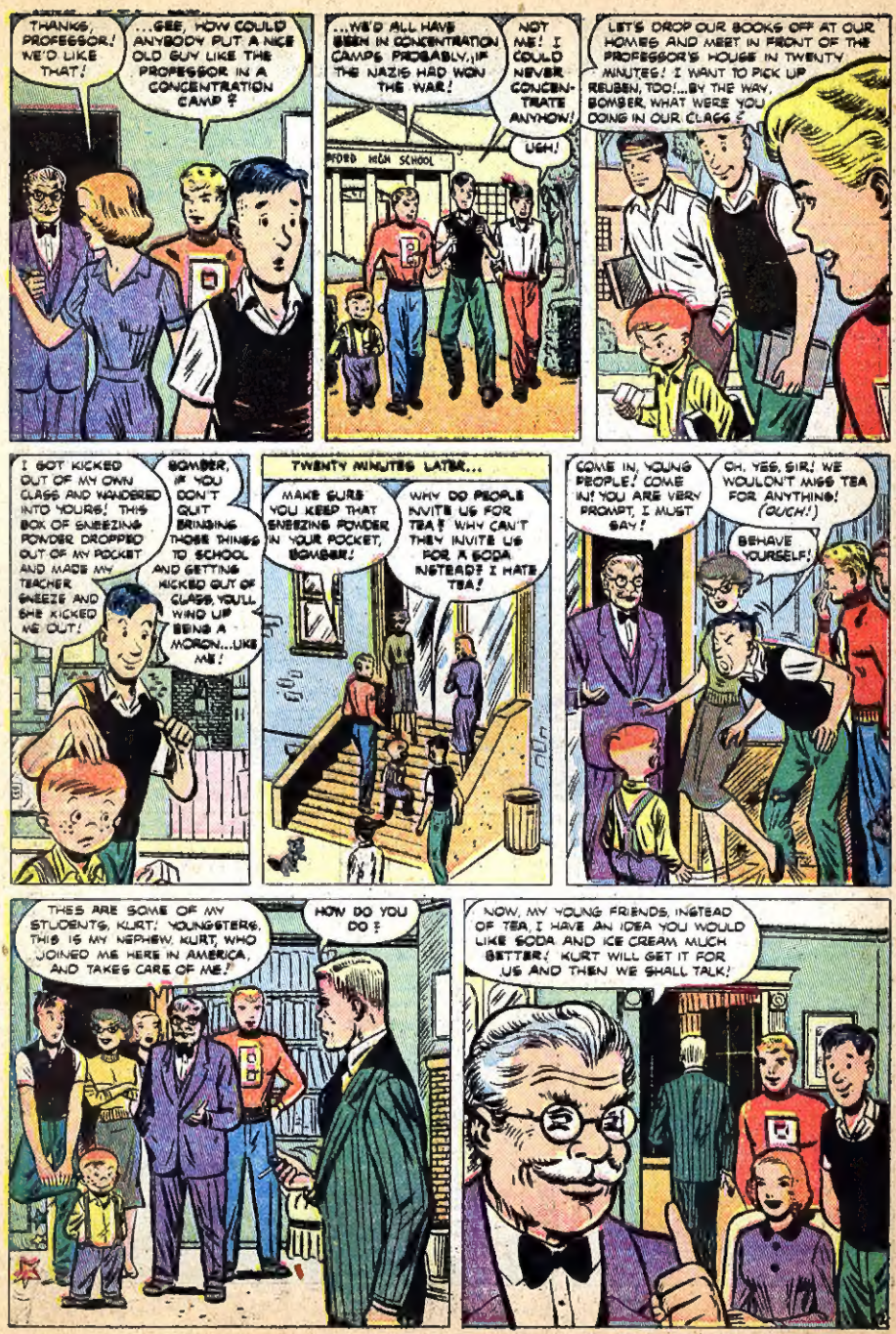
BOB BRANT
AND THE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS!

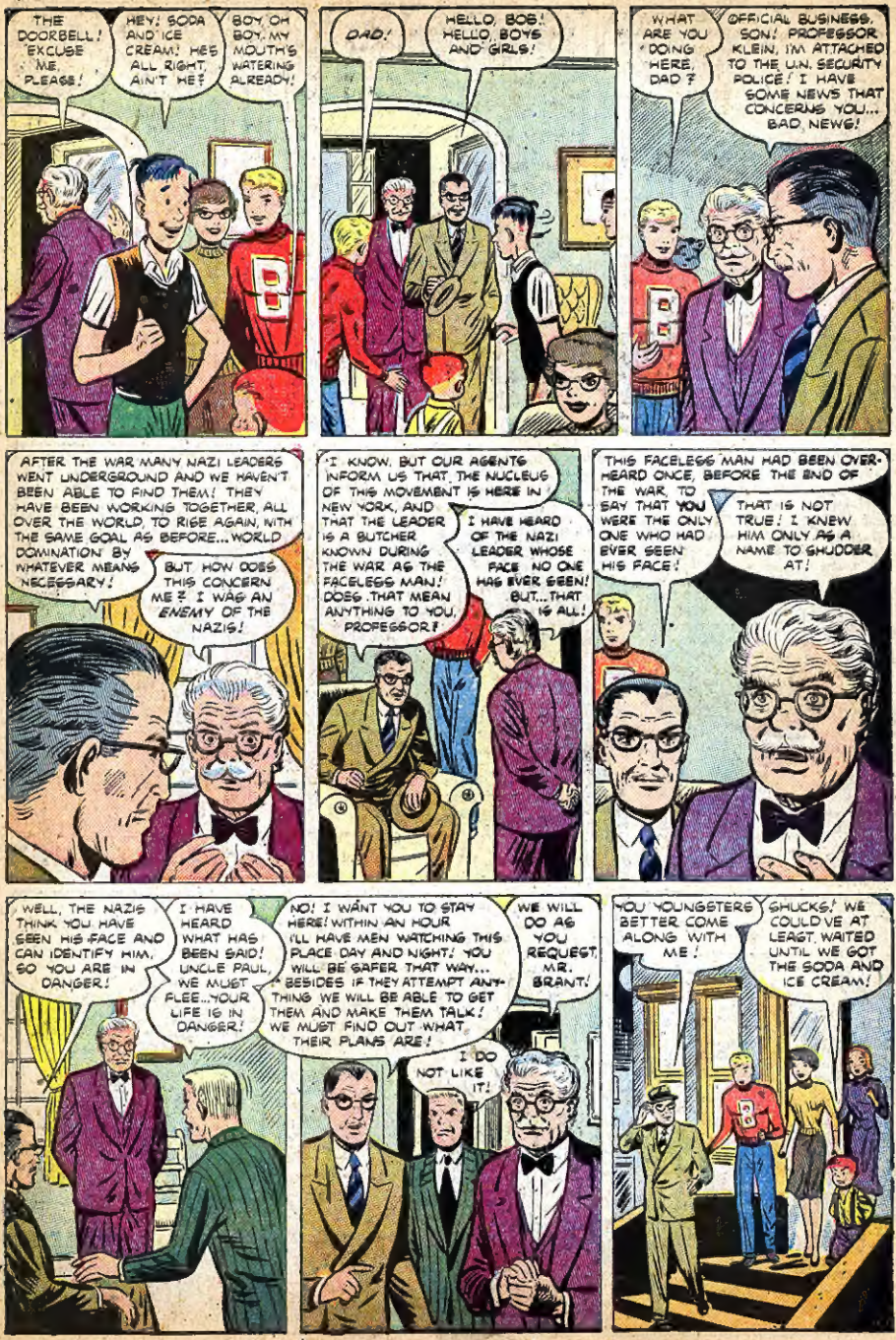

THE ARTERIES, THE LIFE LINES OF A GREAT CITY LIE BENEATH THE SURFACE WHERE THEY QUIETLY DO THEIR WORK UNSEEN AND *MOSTLY UNKNOWN* BY THE PEOPLE ABOVE, WHO DEPEND ON THEM FOR THE COMFORTS, EVEN THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE! DOWN UNDER THE EARTH, BEYOND THE REACH OF THE SUN, BOB BRANT AND THE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS BATTLED FOR THE LIFE OF A CITY, AS WELL AS THEIR OWN LIVES, AGAINST A CULT OF MURDERERS WHO HAD ONCE BEFORE SPREAD DEATH AND DESTRUCTION THROUGHOUT MOST OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD!!
WE'RE TRAPPED BETWEEN THE SUBWAY TRAIN AND THE FACELESS MAN AND HIS GANG!
W-WHAT'LL WE *DO*?
THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION...AND BELIEVE ME, I WISH I HAD A GOOD ANSWER!

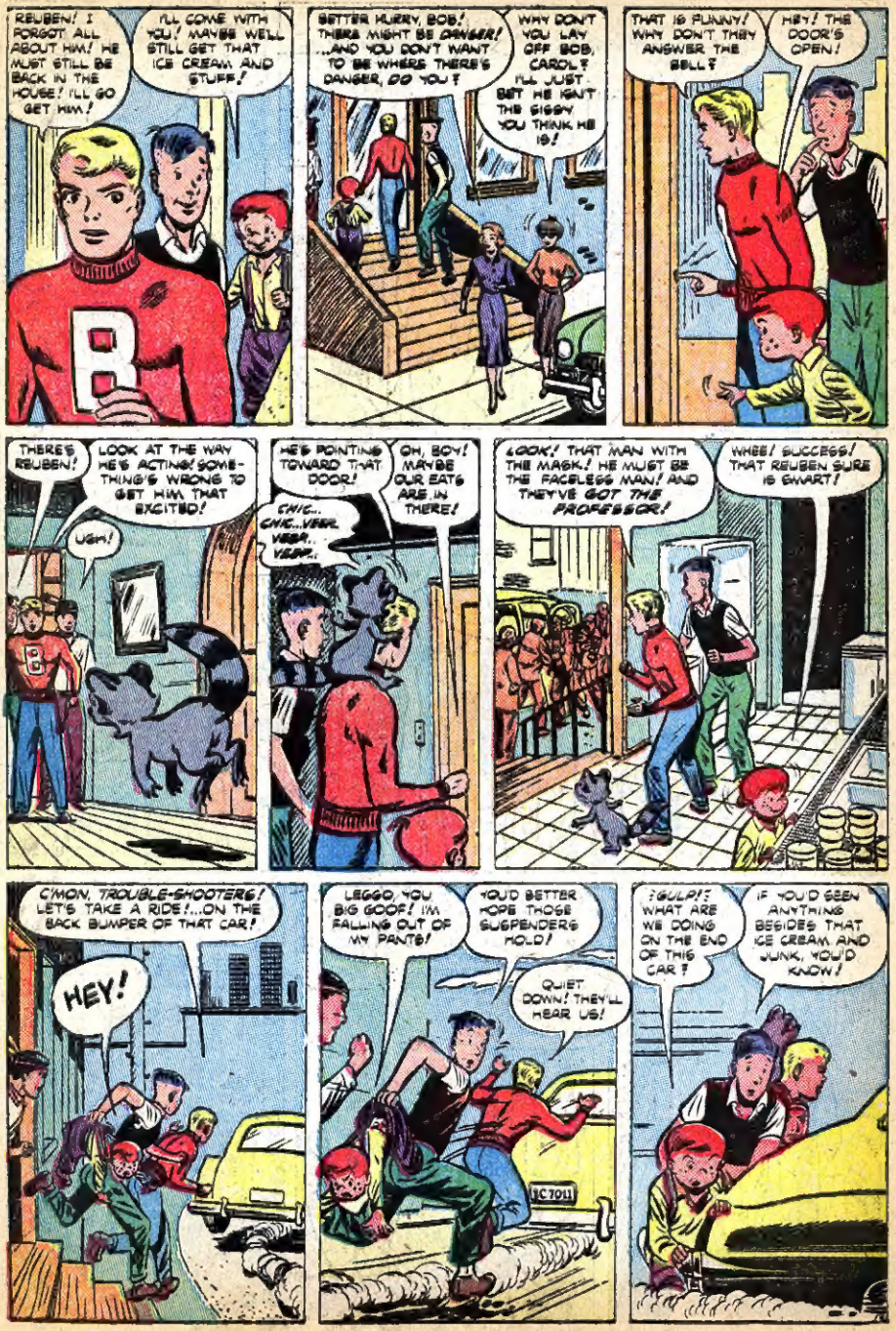
YES, MY YOUNG FRIENDS, YOU CAN TURN YOUR FACES TO THE SUN WHERE FREEDOM LIES! IN GERMANY, WHERE I COME FROM, IT WAS NOT SO FOR THE YOUTHS! BE PROUD OF YOUR HERITAGE OF FREEDOM! IT IS WORTH ANYTHING TO PROTECT IT!

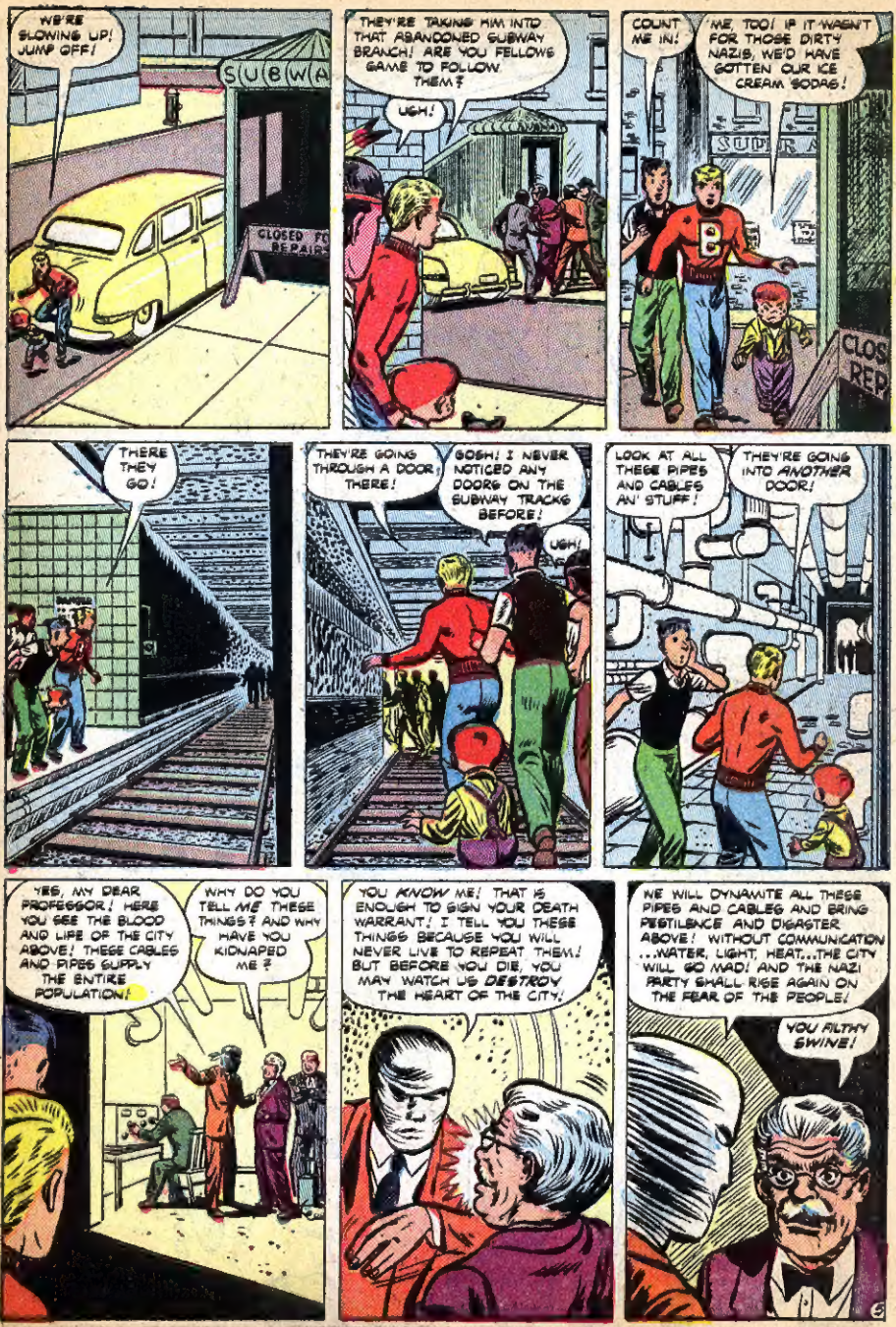



PROFESSOR KLEIN, IS IT TRUE THAT YOU WERE IN A CONCENTRATION CAMP IN GERMANY?
...YES, THAT IS TRUE! THE NAZIS, THEY DID NOT LIKE ME...BUT WHY DO NOT YOU YOUNG PEOPLE COME TO MY HOUSE FOR TEA AND I WILL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT! IN ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES, JA?

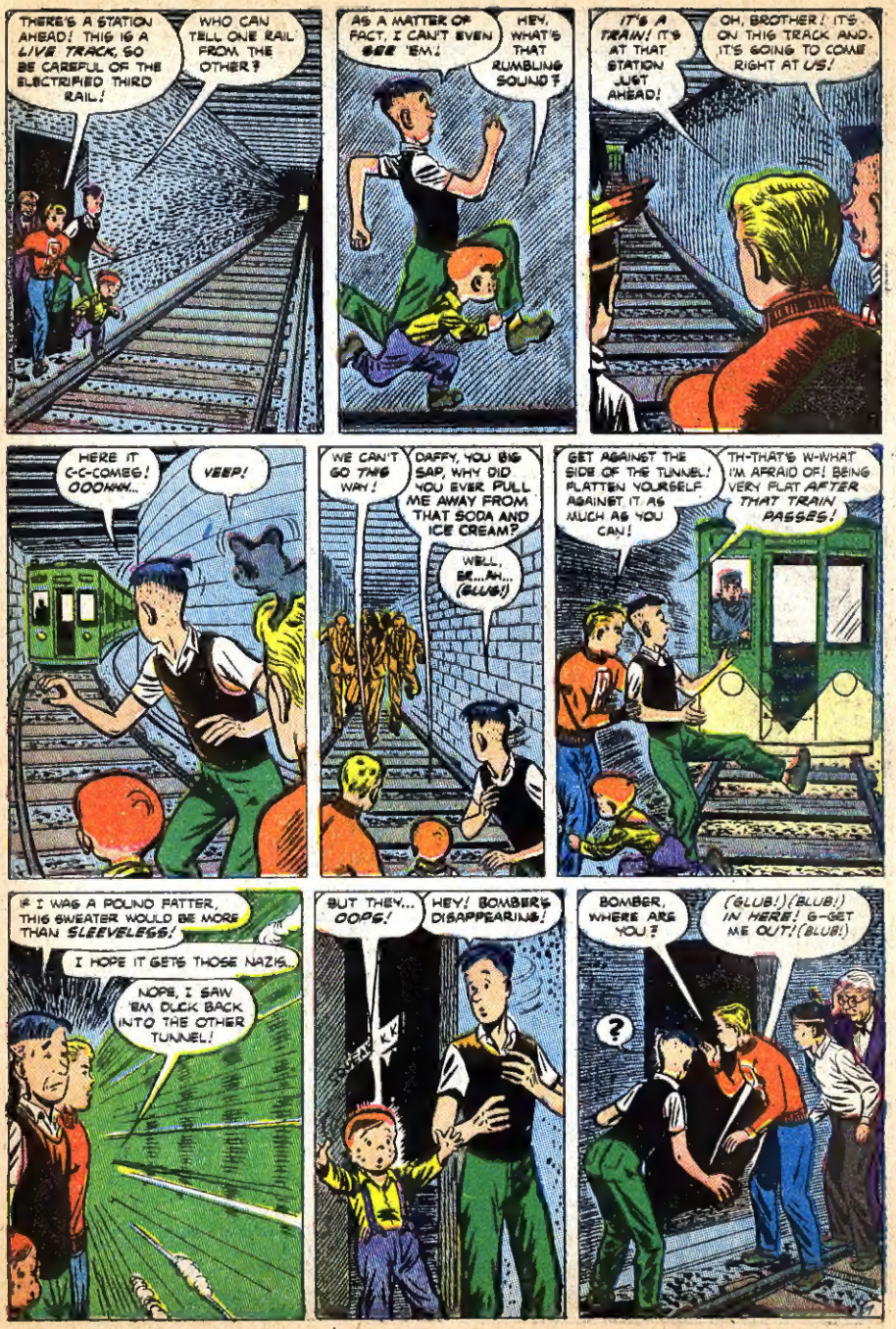

THANKS, PROFESSOR! WE'D LIKE THAT!
...GEE, HOW COULD ANYBODY PUT A NICE OLD GUY LIKE THE PROFESSOR IN A CONCENTRATION CAMP?
...WE'D ALL HAVE BEEN IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS PROBABLY, IF THE NAZIS HAD WON THE WAR!
NOT ME! I COULD NEVER CONCENTRATE ANYHOW!
UGH!
LET'S DROP OUR BOOKS OFF AT OUR HOMES AND MEET IN FRONT OF THE PROFESSOR'S HOUSE IN TWENTY MINUTES! I WANT TO PICK UP REUBEN, TOO!...BY THE WAY, BOMBER, WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN OUR CLASS?
I GOT KICKED OUT OF MY OWN CLASS AND WANDERED INTO YOURS! THIS BOX OF SNEEZING POWDER DROPPED OUT OF MY POCKET AND MADE MY TEACHER SNEEZE AND SHE KICKED ME OUT!
BOMBER, IF YOU DON'T QUIT BRINGING THOSE THINGS TO SCHOOL AND GETTING KICKED OUT OF CLASS, YOU'LL WIND UP BEING A MORON...LIKE ME!
TWENTY MINUTES LATER...
MAKE SURE YOU KEEP THAT SNEEZING POWDER IN YOUR POCKET, BOMBER!
WHY DO PEOPLE INVITE US FOR TEA? WHY CAN'T THEY INVITE US FOR A SODA INSTEAD? I HATE TEA!
COME IN, YOUNG PEOPLE! COME IN! YOU ARE VERY PROMPT, I MUST SAY!
OH, YES, SIR! WE WOULDN'T MISS TEA FOR ANYTHING! (OUCH!)
BEHAVE YOURSELF!
THESE ARE SOME OF MY STUDENTS, KURT! YOUNGSTERS, THIS IS MY NEPHEW, KURT, WHO JOINED ME HERE IN AMERICA, AND TAKES CARE OF ME!
HOW DO YOU DO?
NOW, MY YOUNG FRIENDS, INSTEAD OF TEA I HAVE AN IDEA YOU WOULD LIKE SODA AND ICE CREAM MUCH BETTER! KURT WILL GET IT FOR US AND THEN WE SHALL TALK!


THE DOORBELL! EXCUSE ME, PLEASE!
HEY! SODA AND ICE CREAM! HE'S ALL RIGHT, AIN'T HE?
BOY, OH BOY. MY MOUTH'S WATERING ALREADY!
DAD!
HELLO, BOB! HELLO, BOYS AND GIRLS!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, DAD?
@FFICIAL BUSINESS, SON! PROFESSOR KLEIN, I'M ATTACHED TO THE U.N. SECURITY POLICE! I HAVE SOME NEWS THAT CONCERNS YOU... BAD NEWS!
AFTER THE WAR MANY NAZI LEADERS WENT UNDERGROUND AND WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND THEM! THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER, ALL OVER THE WORLD, TO RISE AGAIN, WITH THE SAME GOAL AS BEFORE... WORLD DOMINATION BY WHATEVER MEANS NECESSARY!
BUT HOW DOES THIS CONCERN ME? I WAS AN ENEMY OF THE NAZIS!
"I KNOW. BUT OUR AGENTS INFORM US THAT THE NUCLEUS OF THIS MOVEMENT IS HERE IN NEW YORK, AND THAT THE LEADER IS A BUTCHER KNOWN DURING THE WAR AS THE FACELESS MAN! DOES THAT MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU, PROFESSOR?
I HAVE HEARD OF THE NAZI LEADER WHOSE FACE NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN! BUT... THAT IS ALL!
THIS FACELESS MAN HAD BEEN OVERHEARD ONCE, BEFORE THE END OF THE WAR, TO SAY THAT YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD EVER SEEN HIS FACE!
THAT IS NOT TRUE! I KNEW HIM ONLY AS A NAME TO SHUDDER AT!
WELL, THE NAZIS THINK YOU HAVE SEEN HIS FACE AND CAN IDENTIFY HIM, SO YOU ARE IN DANGER!
I HAVE HEARD WHAT HAS BEEN SAID, UNCLE PAUL. WE MUST FLEE... YOUR LIFE IS IN DANGER!
NO! I WANT YOU TO STAY HERE! WITHIN AN HOUR I'LL HAVE MEN WATCHING THIS PLACE DAY AND NIGHT! YOU WILL BE SAFER THAT WAY... BESIDES IF THEY ATTEMPT ANYTHING WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET THEM AND MAKE THEM TALK! WE MUST FIND OUT WHAT THEIR PLANS ARE!
WE WILL DO AS YOU REQUEST, MR. BRANT!
I DO NOT LIKE IT!
YOU YOUNGSTERS BETTER COME ALONG WITH ME!
SHUCKS! WE COULD'VE AT LEAST WAITED UNTIL WE GOT THE SODA AND ICE CREAM!


REUBEN! I FORGOT ALL ABOUT HIM! HE MUST STILL BE BACK IN THE HOUSE! I'LL GO GET HIM!
I'LL COME WITH YOU! MAYBE WE'LL STILL GET THAT ICE CREAM AND STUFF!
B
BETTER HURRY, BOB! THERA MIGHT BE DANGER! ...AND YOU DON'T WANT TO BE WHERE THERE'S DANGER, DO YOU?
WHY DON'T YOU LAY OFF BOB, CAROL? I'LL JUST BET HE ISN'T THE SISSY YOU THINK HE IS!
THAT IS FUNNY! WHY DON'T THEY ANSWER THE BELL?
HEY! THE DOOR'S OPEN!
THERE'S REUBEN!
LOOK AT THE WAY HE'S ACTING! SOMETHING'S WRONG TO GET HIM THAT EXCITED!
UGH!
HE'S POINTING TOWARD THAT DOOR!
OH, BOY! MAYBE OUR EATS ARE IN THERE!
CHIC... CHIC...VERR. VERR... VERR...
¿LOOK,! THAT MAN WITH THE MASK! HE MUST BE THE FACELESS MAN! AND THEY'VE GOT THE PROFESSOR!
WHEE! SUCCESS! THAT REUBEN SURE IS SMART!
C'MON, TROUBLE-SHOOTERS! LET'S TAKE A RIDE!...ON THE BACK BUMPER OF THAT CAR!
HEY!
LEGGO, YOU BIG GOOF! I'M FALLING OUT OF MY PANTS!
YOU'D BETTER HOPE THOSE SUSPENDERS HOLD!
QUIET DOWN! THEY'LL HEAR US!
¡GULP!: WHAT ARE WE DOING ON THE END OF THIS CAR?
IF YOU'D SEEN ANYTHING BESIDES THAT ICE CREAM AND JUNK, YOU'D KNOW!


WE'RE SLOWING UP! JUMP OFF!
SUBWA
CLOSED FO REPAIRS
THEY'RE TAKING HIM INTO THAT ABANDONED SUBWAY BRANCH! ARE YOU FELLOWS GAME TO FOLLOW THEM?
UGH!
COUNT ME IN!
ME, TOO! IF IT WASN'T FOR THOSE DIRTY NAZIS, WE'D HAVE GOTTEN OUR ICE CREAM SODAS!
SUP
CLOS REP
THERE THEY GO!
THEY'RE GOING THROUGH A DOOR! THERE!
GOSH! I NEVER NOTICED ANY DOORS ON THE SUBWAY TRACKS BEFORE!
UGH!
LOOK AT ALL THESE PIPES AND CABLES AN' STUFF!
THEY'RE GOING INTO ANOTHER DOOR!
YES, MY DEAR PROFESSOR! HERE YOU SEE THE BLOOD AND LIFE OF THE CITY ABOVE! THESE CABLES AND PIPES SUPPLY THE ENTIRE POPULATION!
WHY DO YOU TELL ME THESE THINGS? AND WHY HAVE YOU KIDNAPED ME?
YOU KNOW ME! THAT IS ENOUGH TO SIGN YOUR DEATH WARRANT! I TELL YOU THESE THINGS BECAUSE YOU WILL NEVER LIVE TO REPEAT THEM! BUT BEFORE YOU DIE, YOU MAY WATCH US DESTROY THE HEART OF THE CITY!
WE WILL DYNAMITE ALL THESE PIPES AND CABLES AND BRING PESTILENCE AND DISASTER ABOVE! WITHOUT COMMUNICATION ...WATER, LIGHT, HEAT...THE CITY WILL GO MAD! AND THE NAZI PARTY SHALL RISE AGAIN ON THE FEAR OF THE PEOPLE!
YOU FILTHY SWINE!

SAY, REUBEN! COME BACK HERE!
HE SWIPED MY BOX OF SNEEZING POWDER RIGHT OUT OF MY POCKET!
WHAT IS THAT DUST?
SOME ANIMAL CREATURE ON THE PIPES!
BOY, CAN THOSE NAZIS SNEEZE!
REUBEN IS A MOST REMARKABLE ANIMAL! MY PEOPLE CALLED THEM ARAKUN! ZOOLOGICALLY, THE RACCOON FAMILY IS KNOWN AS PROCYONIDAE, AND CURIOSITY IS ONE OF THEIR MAJOR CHARACTERISTICS! THUS REUBEN APPROPRIATED THE POWDER AND EMPTIED IT UPON THE NAZIS IN ORDER TO OBSERVE THE EFFECT!
CHOO AH CHOO
Y-YOU TOOK THE WORDS RIGHT OUT OF MY MOUTH, FEATHERS!
COME ON! THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO RESCUE THE PROFESSOR!
AH CHOO
AHHH CHOO
QUICK, PROFESSOR KLEIN! FOLLOW US!
AH WHOOF
AH CHOO
CHOO!
EEAHH CHOO!
G-GOSH... WHICH WAY?
OPPOSITE THE WAY WE CAME IN! LET'S MOVE!
HE'S BEING HELPED TO ESCAPE! AFTER THEM, YOU DUMMKÖPFE! KILL THEM!
LUCKY FOR US THAT POWDER HALF-BLINDED THEM!
WHY DON'T WE GO BACK THE WAY WE CAME, BOB?
BECAUSE THE OTHER WAY WAS DESERTED! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO A LIVE TRACK, AND PEOPLE AS FAST AS WE CAN!
HEY! HERE'S A TRACK OVER HERE, NOW! SEE?


THERE'S A STATION AHEAD! THIS IS A LIVE TRACK, SO BE CAREFUL OF THE ELECTRIFIED THIRD RAIL!
WHO CAN TELL ONE RAIL FROM THE OTHER?
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I CAN'T EVEN SEE 'EM!
HEY, WHAT'S THAT RUMBLING SOUND?
IT'S A TRAIN! IT'S AT THAT STATION JUST AHEAD!
OH, BROTHER! IT'S ON THIS TRACK AND IT'S GOING TO COME RIGHT AT US!
HERE IT C-C-COMES! OOOHHH...
YEEP!
WE CAN'T GO THIS WAY!
DAFFY, YOU BIG SAP, WHY DID YOU EVER PULL ME AWAY FROM THAT SODA AND ICE CREAM?
WELL, ER...AH... (GLUB!)
GET AGAINST THE SIDE OF THE TUNNEL! FLATTEN YOURSELF AGAINST IT AS MUCH AS YOU CAN!
TH-THAT'S W-WHAT I'M AFRAID OF! BEING VERY FLAT AFTER THAT TRAIN PASSES!
IF I WAS A POUND FATTER, THIS SWEATER WOULD BE MORE THAN SLEEVELESS!
I HOPE IT GETS THOSE NAZIS...
NOPE, I SAW 'EM DUCK BACK INTO THE OTHER TUNNEL!
BUT THEY... OOPS!
HEY! BOMBER'S DISAPPEARING!
BOMBER, WHERE ARE YOU?
?
(GLUB!) (BLUB!) IN HERE! G-GET ME OUT! (BLUB!)

IT'S A SEWER!
SAY, BOMBER, YOU AREN'T ALLOWED TO SWIM IN THERE!
GLUB! GLUB!
THAT'S NICE PERFUME YOU'RE WEARING, OL' PAL, BUT DON'T YOU THINK YOU PUT ON TOO MUCH?
AWW, SHUT UP, WILL YA?
LET'S GO! THERE'S GOT TO BE AN EXIT TO THE STREET SOME-PLACE!
AS ONE SKUNK SAID TO THE OTHER SKUNK, BOMBER, HOW ABOUT LETTING ME WALK IN FRONT? IT SMELLS BACK HERE!
OH! OH! WE'VE GOT COMPANY AGAIN! WATCH IT!
BANG! BANG!
HERE'S OUR WAY OUT! COME ON!
HEY! THOSE BULLETS ARE GETTING CLOSER!
WHAT DO YOU CARE? YOU SMELL LIKE YOU'RE DEAD ALREADY!
I...I CAN'T M-MAKE IT... GO ON, BOYS! G-GO...
NO, SIR! WE'RE NOT LEAVING YOU BEHIND, PROFESSOR! GIVE HIM A BOOST UP, DAFFY!
THE COVER'S... (OOF!) STUCK!
PUSH, BOB! GIVE IT ALL YOU GOT!
UGH!
IT...IT'S... MOVING...
DON'T LET ANY OF THEM ESCAPE! GET THEM ALL!
SUCCESS! NOW LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL US, BELIEVE ME!

LET'S SHOVE THAT MANHOLE COVER BACK IN A HURRY! BOTTLE THEM UP!
NO! REUBEN'S GIVEN ME A BETTER IDEA!
GILMOR AND SON WRECKERS
GRAB YOURSELVES A PIECE OF WOOD OR HUNK OF PIPE! THESE RATS HAVE TO COME UP ONE AT A TIME, AND AS THEY DO...
SURPRISE!
OKAY, PULL HIM UP!
I'VE GOT DUBBS ON THE NEXT ONE!
IT'S A PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU JOIN MY CLUB, LAZ.
MY TURN NEXT.
OOF! THAT ONE HAD A THICK SKULL! THANKS, FEATHERS.
THE FACELESS MAN SHOULD BE NEXT! AND HE'S ALL MINE!
YIPPEE! THAT'S ALL OF 'EM!
PROFESSOR, I GUESS YOU WERE THE ONLY MAN WHO REALLY KNEW THE FACELESS MAN, ALTHOUGH YOU DIDN'T REALIZE IT!
KURT! MY OWN NEPHEW KURT! I NOURISHED A SNAKE IN MY OWN HOME! SO IT WAS HE WHO EXPOSED ME TO THE NAZIS!
LATER...
WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU KIDS BEEN? YOU'VE MISSED ALL THE EXCITEMENT! THE PROFESSOR WAS KIDNAPED BY NAZIS AND SAVED THE DETAILS BESS! IT WON'T FRIGHTEN BOB.
ACHOO! MY POWDER! OH-H-H-H. AH-CHOO!
I AIN'T EVEN GONNA STOP TO LOOK AROUND, THIS TIME! (GLUB!) (GLURP!)
THE END

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CUIDADO

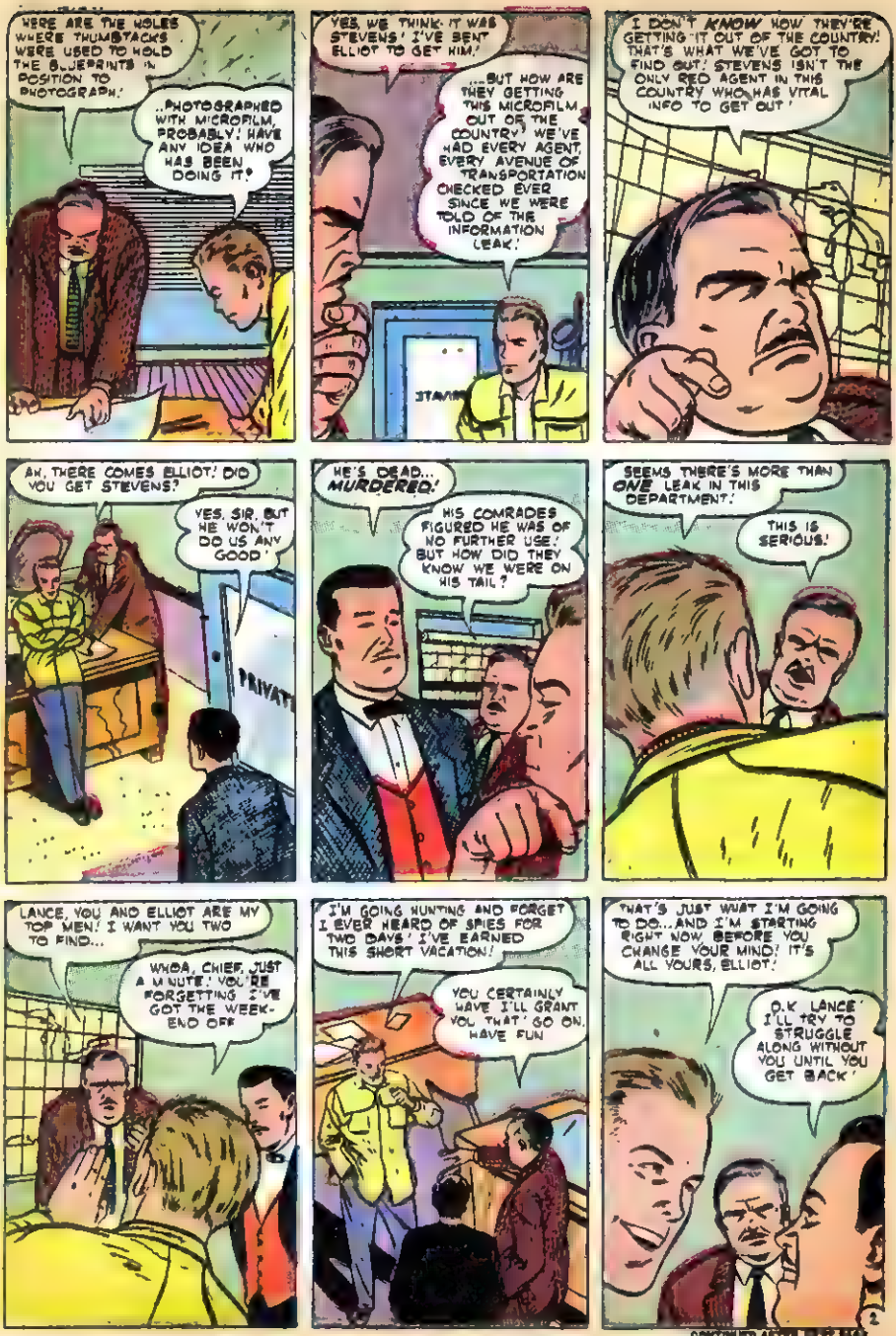
THERE'S AN OLD SAYING THAT A MAN WORKS HARDER AT HIS VACATION THAN HE DOES AT HIS WORK! LANCE BRANT FOUND OUT THAT THIS SAYING CAN BE TRUE! HE TOOK HIS VACATION TO RELAX... AND ALMOST RELAXED PERMANENTLY!

C628

LANCE WATCHED THE MAN'S FINGER TIGHTEN ON THE TRIGGER. HE WAS DELIBERATE ABOUT IT...HE WANTED TO MAKE SURE...

...THEY SAY THAT A MAN'S LIFE FLASHES THROUGH HIS MIND WHEN HE'S AT THE POINT OF DEATH. BUT ONLY THE PORTION OF IT THAT HAD LED LANCE TO THIS, SPED THROUGH HIS MIND IN THAT LAST SECOND.

LANCE WE'VE DISCOVERED WHY SO MANY OF OUR TOP SECRETS ARE BEING STOLEN WITHOUT TRACE. THEY'VE BEEN PHOTOGRAPHED AND THEN PUT BACK SO WE WOULDN'T SUSPECT.


HERE ARE THE HOLES WHERE THUMBTACKS WERE USED TO HOLD THE BLUEPRINTS IN POSITION TO PHOTOGRAPH.
..PHOTOGRAPHED WITH MICROFILM, PROBABLY! HAVE ANY IDEA WHO HAS BEEN DOING IT?
YES, WE THINK IT WAS STEVENS! I'VE SENT ELLIOT TO GET HIM.
..BUT HOW ARE THEY GETTING THIS MICROFILM OUT OF THE COUNTRY? WE'VE HAD EVERY AGENT, EVERY AVENUE OF TRANSPORTATION CHECKED EVER SINCE WE WERE TOLD OF THE INFORMATION LEAK!
I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY'RE GETTING IT OUT OF THE COUNTRY! THAT'S WHAT WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT! STEVENS ISN'T THE ONLY RED AGENT IN THIS COUNTRY WHO HAS VITAL INFO TO GET OUT!
AH, THERE COMES ELLIOT! DID YOU GET STEVENS?
YES, SIR, BUT HE WON'T DO US ANY GOOD!
PRIVATE
HE'S DEAD... MURDERED!
HIS COMRADES FIGURED HE WAS OF NO FURTHER USE! BUT HOW DID THEY KNOW WE WERE ON HIS TAIL?
SEEMS THERE'S MORE THAN ONE LEAK IN THIS DEPARTMENT!
THIS IS SERIOUS!
LANCE, YOU AND ELLIOT ARE MY TOP MEN! I WANT YOU TWO TO FIND...
WHOA, CHIEF, JUST A MINUTE! YOU'RE FORGETTING I'VE GOT THE WEEK-END OFF!
I'M GOING HUNTING AND FORGET I EVER HEARD OF SPIES FOR TWO DAYS! I'VE EARNED THIS SHORT VACATION!
YOU CERTAINLY HAVE! I'LL GRANT YOU THAT! GO ON, HAVE FUN
THAT'S JUST WHAT I'M GOING TO DO...AND I'M STARTING RIGHT NOW BEFORE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND! IT'S ALL YOURS, ELLIOT!
O.K LANCE! I'LL TRY TO STRUGGLE ALONG WITHOUT YOU UNTIL YOU GET BACK!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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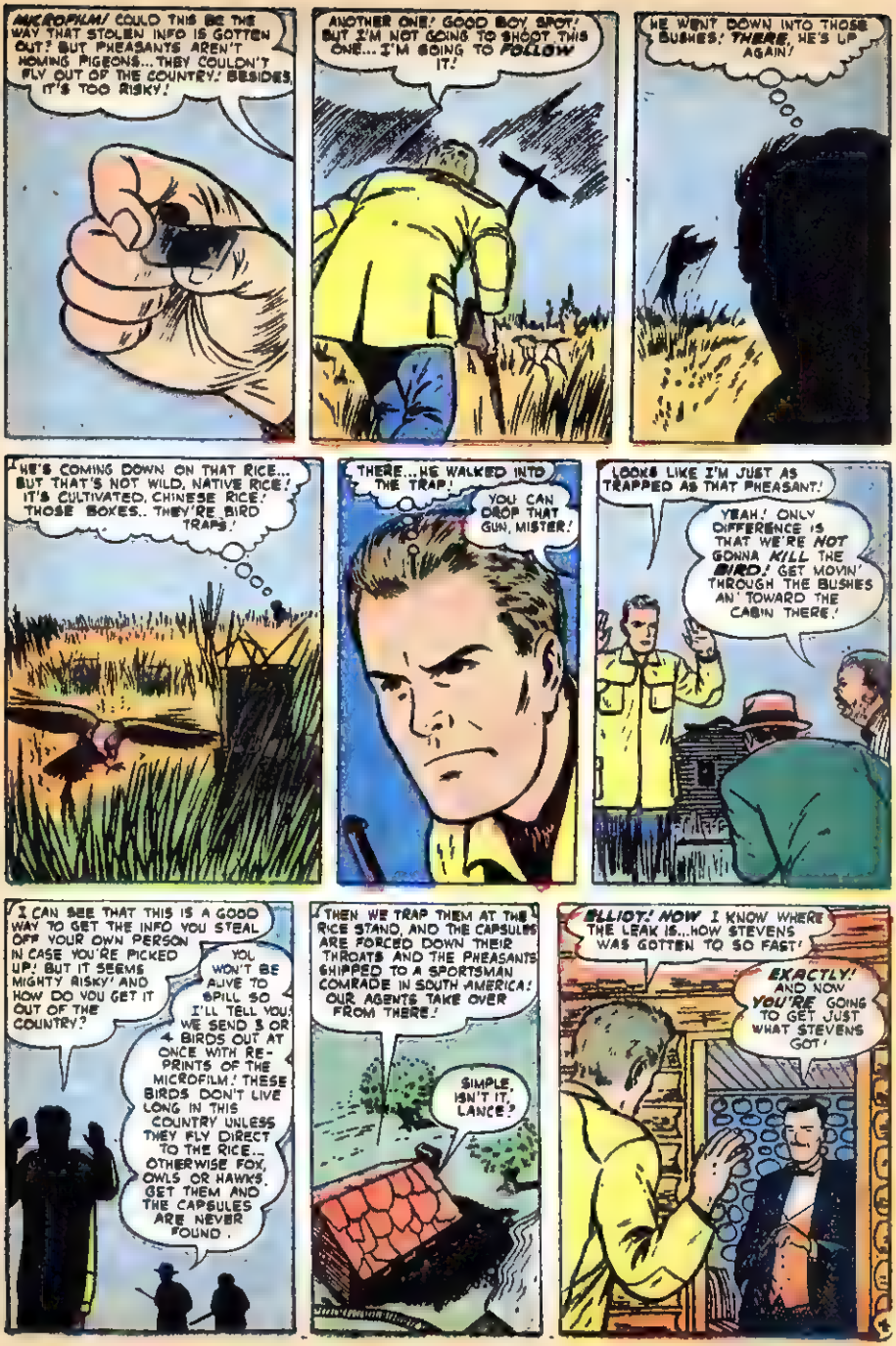
HI, SPOT! YOU AND I ARE GOING HUNTING, AND I'M GOING TO FORGET ALL ABOUT THAT BUSINESS BACK THERE, WHILE WE BAG OURSELVES SOME BIRDS AND ENJOY THE COUNTRY!
WONDER WHO ELSE IS IN ON THIS SPY THING BESIDES STEVENS?
THE BIG PUZZLE IS...HOW ARE THEY SNEAKING THE INFO OUT WHEN WE'VE GOT EVERY EXIT SEALED? WHAT HAPPENS TO THAT MICROFILM, AFTER THEY TAKE IT?
I PROMISED MYSELF I'D FORGET ALL ABOUT THAT STUFF AND ENJOY MYSELF 'C MON SPOT LET'S GET US SOME BIRDS!
THAT WAS FAST! GOOD BOY! SPOT! HOLD THAT POINT!
O.K., SPOT, FLUSH HIM OUT!
GOT HIM!
THAT'S STRANGE! THIS ISN'T A NATIVE PHEASANT! IT'S A CHINESE CRESTED PHEASANT. I DIDN'T KNOW ANY WERE RELEASED IN THE WOODS!
BANDED...SO THE STATE CAN KEEP TRACK OF THEM PROBABLY! AND THERE'S SOMETHING INSIDE! THIS CAPSULE ATTACHED TO THE BAND! PROBABLY A REQUEST THAT HUNTERS WHO DOWN ONE REPORT IT TO THE STATE CONSERVATION BOARD SO THEY CAN CHECK...


MICROFILM! COULD THIS BE THE WAY THAT STOLEN INFO IS GOTTEN OUT? BUT PHEASANTS AREN'T HOMING PIGEONS... THEY COULDN'T FLY OUT OF THE COUNTRY! BESIDES, IT'S TOO RISKY!
ANOTHER ONE! GOOD BOY, SPOT! BUT I'M NOT GOING TO SHOOT THIS ONE... I'M GOING TO FOLLOW IT!
HE WENT DOWN INTO THOSE BUSHES! THERE, HE'S UP AGAIN!
HE'S COMING DOWN ON THAT RICE... BUT THAT'S NOT WILD, NATIVE RICE! IT'S CULTIVATED, CHINESE RICE! THOSE BOXES.. THEY'RE BIRD TRAPS!
THERE... HE WALKED INTO THE TRAP!
YOU CAN DROP THAT GUN, MISTER!
LOOKS LIKE I'M JUST AS TRAPPED AS THAT PHEASANT!
YEAH! ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT WE'RE NOT GONNA KILL THE BIRD! GET MOVIN' THROUGH THE BUSHES AN' TOWARD THE CABIN THERE!
I CAN SEE THAT THIS IS A GOOD WAY TO GET THE INFO YOU STEAL OFF YOUR OWN PERSON IN CASE YOU'RE PICKED UP! BUT IT SEEMS MIGHTY RISKY! AND HOW DO YOU GET IT OUT OF THE COUNTRY?
YOU WON'T BE ALIVE TO SPILL SO I'LL TELL YOU! WE SEND 5 OR 6 BIRDS OUT AT ONCE WITH RE-PRINTS OF THE MICROFILM! THESE BIRDS DON'T LIVE LONG IN THIS COUNTRY UNLESS THEY FLY DIRECT TO THE RICE... OTHERWISE FOX, OWLS OR HAWKS GET THEM AND THE CAPSULES ARE NEVER FOUND.
THEN WE TRAP THEM AT THE RICE STAND, AND THE CAPSULES ARE FORCED DOWN THEIR THROATS AND THE PHEASANTS SHIPPED TO A SPORTSMAN COMRADE IN SOUTH AMERICA! OUR AGENTS TAKE OVER FROM THERE!
SIMPLE, ISN'T IT, LANCE?
ELLIOT! NOW I KNOW WHERE THE LEAK IS... HOW STEVENS WAS GOTTEN TO SO FAST!
EXACTLY! AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO GET JUST WHAT STEVENS GOT!

ENOUGH TALK! SHOOT HIM. THEN THROW HIS BODY IN THE LAKE!
THIS IS IT, MR. SNOOPER!
THAT'S WHAT WENT THROUGH LANCE'S MIND AS THE COMMIE'S FINGER TIGHTENED ON THE TRIGGER...
IN A SPLIT-SECOND I'LL HAVE A LEAD SLUG IN MY GUTS! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING...ANYTHING THAT'LL GIVE ME A FIGHTING CHANCE!
LOOK OUT!
PHAGHS!
BLASTED BIRDS!
GET HIM, YOU DUMB OXES!
ARRRGHN!
THROW YOUR GUNS DOWN OR I'LL BLAST YOUR SKULLS OFF! TAKE YOUR CHOICE...FAST!
ALRIGHT...BUT LET US GET OUT OF HERE, AWAY FROM THESE CRAZY BIRDS!
THE NEXT DAY...
HELLO, LANCE! THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING HUNTING OVER THE WEEK-END!
ONE DAY WAS ENOUGH! I GOT A FULL CATCH! WAIT'LL YOU SEE THESE BIRDS I GOT...RED ONES, ALL NICE AND COMFORTABLE IN BIG CAGES!
THE END

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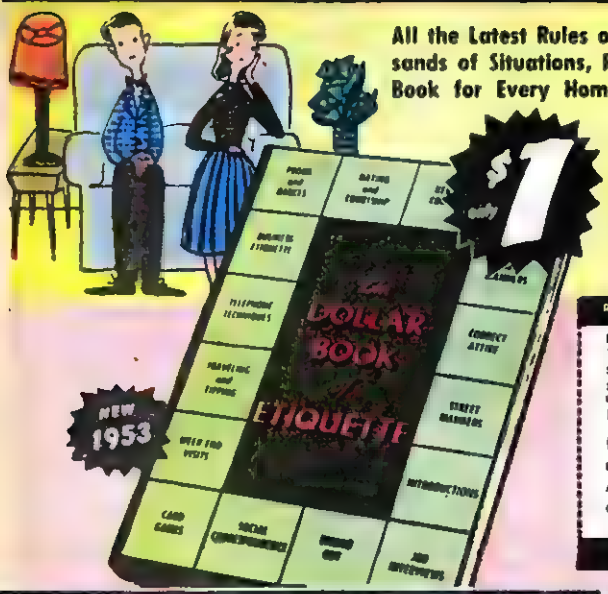

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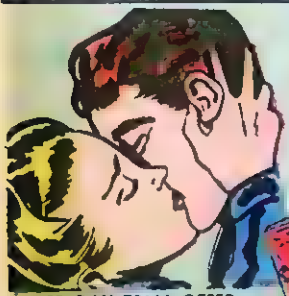

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DARK ADVENTURE

DUQUEZNE, peering from behind the trunk of a huge, jungle giant, heard the drums in the far-off kraal slacked in their relentless, driving beat.

The restless trader smiled.

He knew the time had almost come, now. The time when he could leave his hiding place, encounter danger and gamble with the gods. He slipped from the shelter of the big trees and moved silently, like a jungle beast, toward the wall of the Mugu kraal. He knew what was ahead of him—danger, possible torture, painful death. Or, if these stimulating things did not happen, wealth, security, the fulfillment of everything he wanted.

He knew he would have to exert every subtlety, every muscle, every moment of experience he'd had in Africa. But the reward would be great.

The Mugu idol, a small, carven image made of a single crudely cut ruby was worth a considerable sum. To steal it was treachery, of course, black, remorseless treachery. The Mugu people and the Mugu chief had been his friends. But the trader's palm had itched since the first moment—an incautious one for the tribe—he had glimpsed the image carried in a ceremonial procession.

Long and unholy had been Duquezne's temptations after laying sights on the ruby god. It was not only a question of stealing it, but of getting away with it. Even after he might have left the kraal with the image in his pocket and pursuit left far behind there were the various British Residents to satisfy. They had a nose for stolen goods. They made a point of keeping the name of their Great White Queen pure and unspotted in the land.

It would be difficult, he knew.

He ran until he was out of breath and then he was at the wall of the kraal. The drums stopped. He paused, thinking. Out of deference to the taboos of the tribe, he had left the kraal on a night when the ceremonies of the idol's consecration began. This was a yearly event, immediately followed by the public processions, but, in itself, sacred to the Mugu. But he had left the kraal only to hide in the brush and return before the night was done—the night in which the image was but lightly guarded, when only the Mugu themselves stalked abroad in the kraal. In any case he would have had to remain near the kraal.

The Bilombi river was in full flood.

Swiftly he raced down the length of the wall, came to a low point. He scaled the wall here with a minimum of effort, paused at the top, saw no lights lit in the kraal and dropped into a lane between rows of huts. Since sundown, most of the inhabitants had withdrawn, by tribal law, into their dwellings, save for those who guarded the gates and the bungalow of the chief.

And in the temple itself—merely a hut larger than the rest—only Nesrifar, the medicine man, remained to keep vigil with the diamond image.

Nesrifar, he remembered, was small, weak, with bad eyes. He would be easy to subdue.

Suddenly he stopped. Before him, in the light of a single burning torch, Nesrifar, the medicine man stood with his back to the doors. Nesrifar turned slowly.

Duquezne, his heart beating violently, dropped his right hand to the gun holstered at his belt.

"Why are you here?" Nesrifar asked softly. "You left the kraal this morning. We honored you for respecting our taboos. Do you return to profane the temple?"

"Is there nothing I can say to stop you from your madness?" he asked, finally.

Duquezne glanced at him curiously.

"Why?" he asked.

"I would not have you die, white man. You were once our friend."

The trader advanced slowly, holding his gun ready.

"I won't die, Nesrifar," he said, "I will tie you up, gag you, take the diamond image and leave the kraal in one of your tribe's swift boats. The river is at flood tide and flowing swiftly. By morning I will be beyond the reach of the Mugu."

Nesrifar regarded him gravely.

(continued after next page)

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(continued . . .)

"One last chance, white man. Depart from the temple. I will keep silence. You may keep your honor. Spare us our god and we will spare your life," The medicine man said.

Duquezne chuckled, shaking his head. He whipped down a cord from one of the ceremonial hangings of the temple.

"You will turn around, Nesrifar," he said. "If you don't it will not be I who will die, but you."

For one instant more the medicine man gazed at the white trader. Then, silently, he turned, allowed Duquezne to bind his hands, stretch him on the floor, gag him with a handkerchief.

Then the trader rose and walked to the low stone altar. The diamond flashed brightly in the dim light of the low-burning torch. He picked it up, glanced at it greedily. It was the biggest gem he had ever seen.

Quickly he thrust it into his pocket, holstered his gun and snuffed out the torch.

"Good-bye, Nesrifar," he said in a low voice, and slipped out through the open portal.

Outside, he dodged behind a hut, waited. There was only silence. By now, he reckoned, except for the guard at the main gate, the whole kraal would be asleep. He retraced his steps, rescaled the wall and ran down to the river's edge. In the darkness he could hear the Bilombi surging swiftly past. Dimly he made out the shapes of boats moored to the wooden dock. He chose a small one, made sure it had oars. Then he cast off.

Instantly, the boat swept down the stream.

Seating himself in the very center of the boat that had been hollowed from a log, Duquezne smiled in the darkness. He knew the Bilombi well, though he had never seen it at this high stage of flood. Its banks were sandy, devoid of snags or endless, overhanging row of vegetation. The boat, he knew, would be carried by the swift, irresistible currents to the very center of the river where it would remain, shooting downstream, following the main channel. It would need no guidance. He might safely go to sleep, and the raging waters would carry him far beyond the borders of the Mugu lands by morning.

Once free of the Mugu lands there were other obstacles. Fus-

sy British residents. In the darkness he shrugged. He felt confident he could overcome them all. Feeling the idol in his pocket once more to make sure it was there, the trader lay back in the bottom of the boat and closed his eyes.

When he opened them, he heard a dull, low roar. He rubbed his eyes, shook himself like a cat and sat up, rubbing his stiff limbs. The false dawn had come. Beyond the eastern jungles the sky was alight with its pale, ghostly light. Duquezne squinted as he caught sight of the Monnu range of hills that marked the limits of the Mugu lands. He was safe, now, he reckoned.

Then he stood bolt upright in the boat, as the booming in his ears grew louder. A hand seemed to clutch at his throat as he stared out at the banks.

The banks were different. They had gone. The Bilombi had risen, far, far beyond its usual flood stages, and now the log boat was heading swiftly into a new channel into which the river was emptying.

Duquezne shook in terror as he realized what had happened. Ahead he saw the first gorge of the Monnu hills. Ordinarily it lay above the Bilombi's banks and gave off onto cliffs that dropped, sharply, as the river swerved away from them.

Death stared him in the face—and its bony skull grinned with grim irony. Nesrifar had been sure he would die. And Nesrifar was right. For there had been only one way of departing from the Mugu kraal. By boat. And during the day Duquezne had been away from the village, word must have come that the Biommbi had burst its banks for the first time in history, leaving its ancient course and pouring over the Monnu gorge, instead of passing under it.

Beyond the Bilimbo now were the cliffs! And over them the Bilombi plunged in a giant, new waterfall, roaring a song of vengeance.

Duquezne scrambled for the oars. They snapped like matchsticks in the driving tide. For an instant the boat paused on the lip of the cliff. Then it spun like a child's top and fell, carrying the screaming wretch to the dark, jagged rocks far below.

THE END C-541

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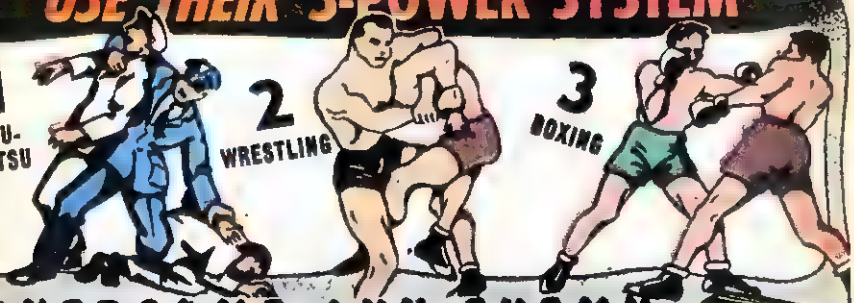

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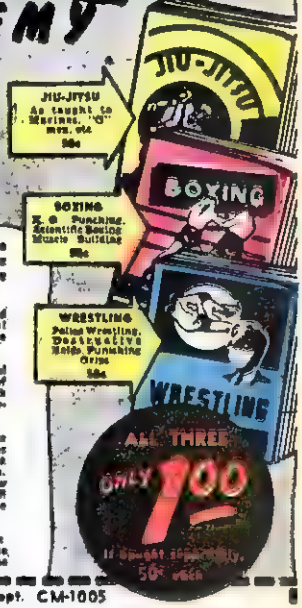

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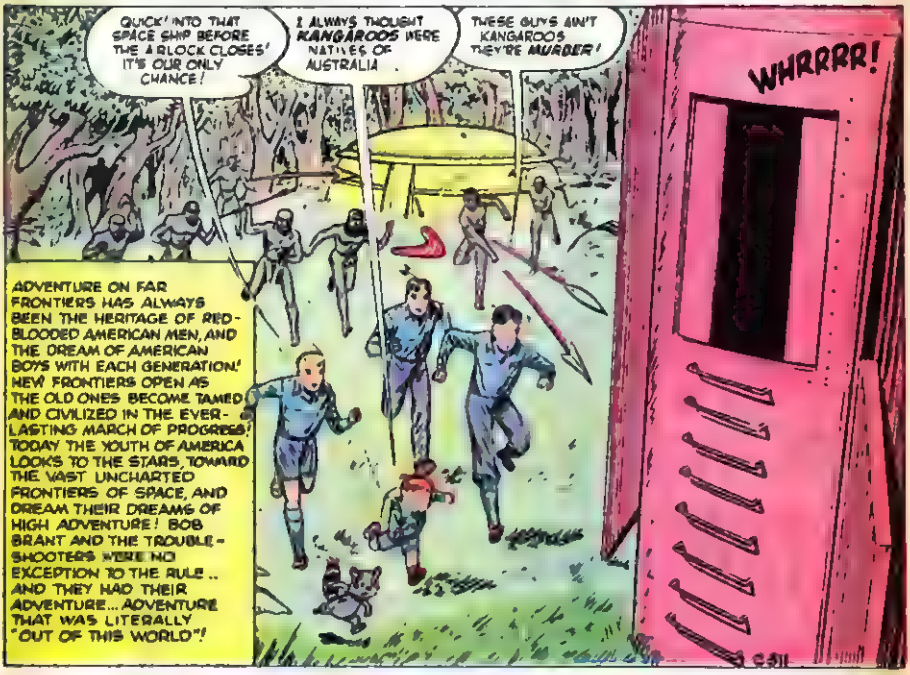
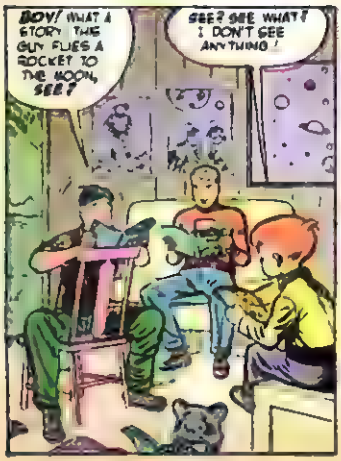
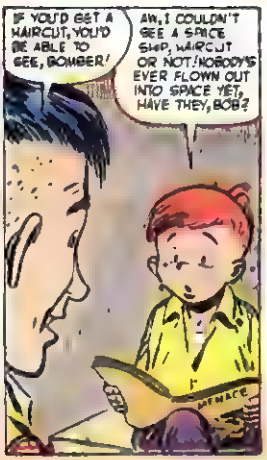
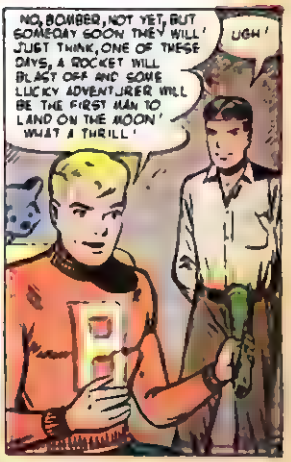
BOB BRANT AND THE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS!

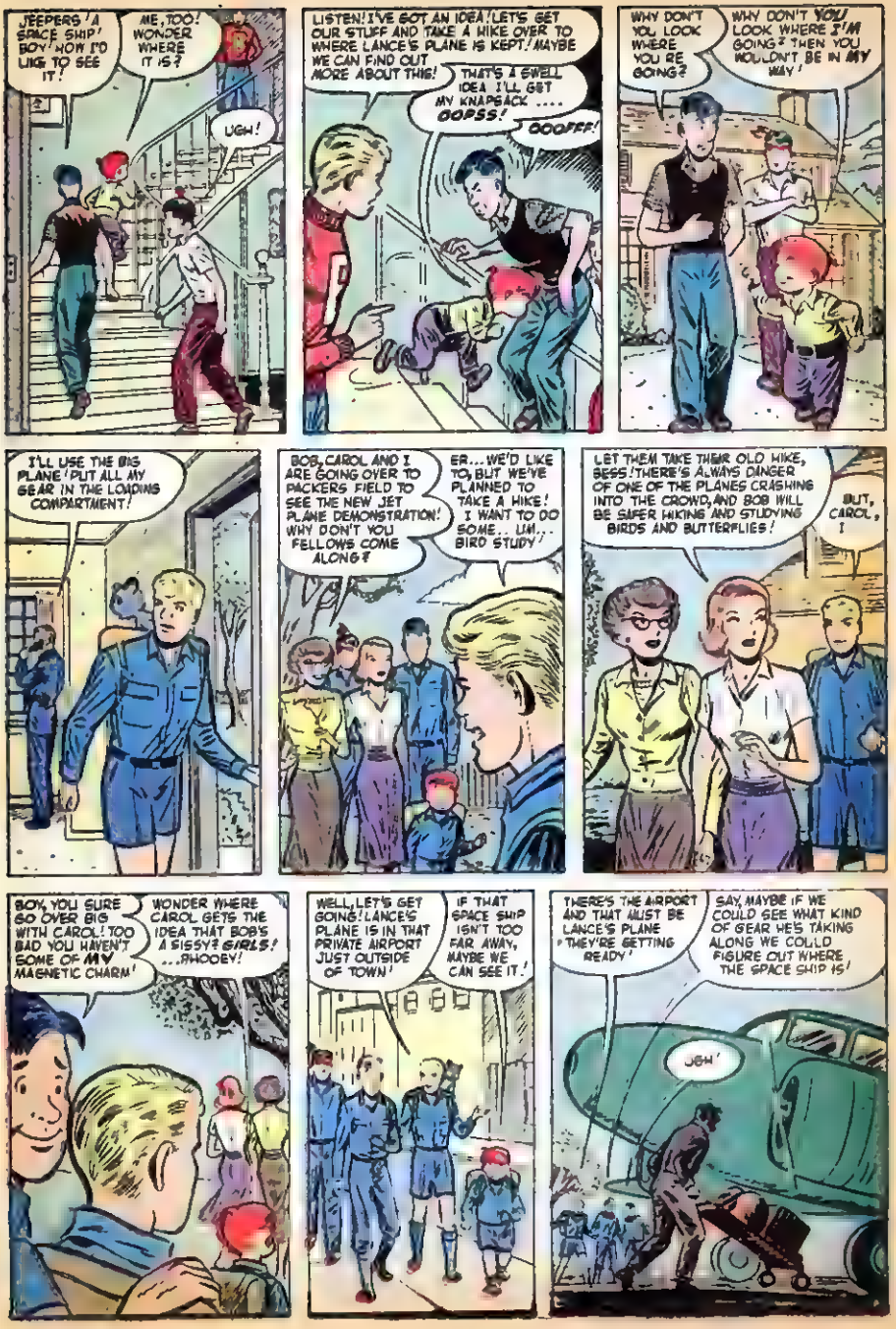

QUICK! INTO THAT SPACE SHIP BEFORE THE A BLOCK CLOSES! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT KANGAROOS WERE NATIVES OF AUSTRALIA
THESE GUYS AIN'T KANGAROOS THEY'RE MURDER!
WHRRRR!
ADVENTURE ON FAR FRONTIERS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE HERITAGE OF RED-BLOODED AMERICAN MEN, AND THE DREAM OF AMERICAN BOYS WITH EACH GENERATION! NEW FRONTIERS OPEN AS THE OLD ONES BECOME TAMED AND CIVILIZED IN THE EVER-LASTING MARCH OF PROGRESS! TODAY THE YOUTH OF AMERICA LOOKS TO THE STARS, TOWARD THE VAST UNCHARTED FRONTIERS OF SPACE, AND DREAM THEIR DREAMS OF HIGH ADVENTURE! BOB BRANT AND THE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS WERE NO EXCEPTION TO THE RULE .. AND THEY HAD THEIR ADVENTURE... ADVENTURE THAT WAS LITERALLY "OUT OF THIS WORLD"!

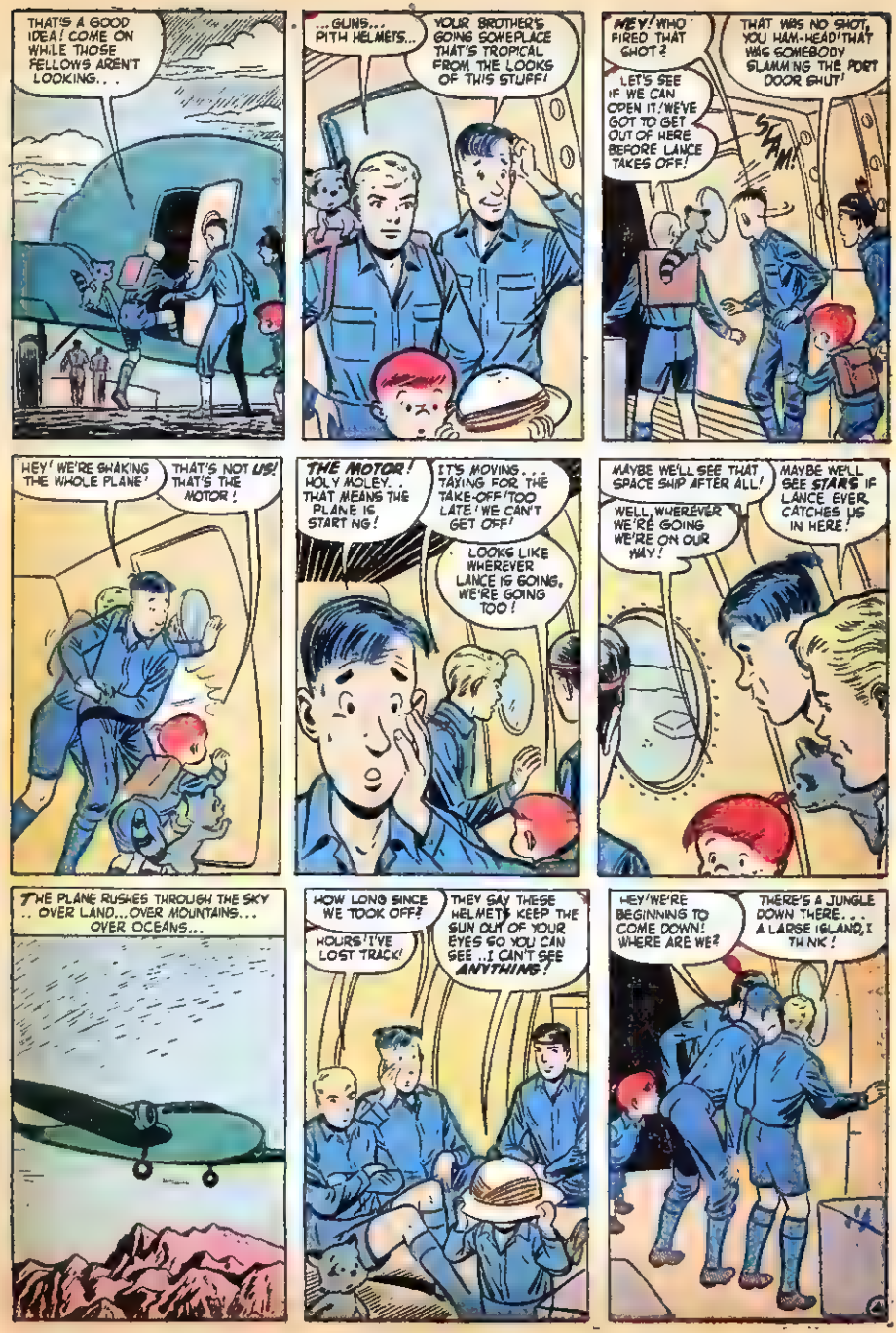


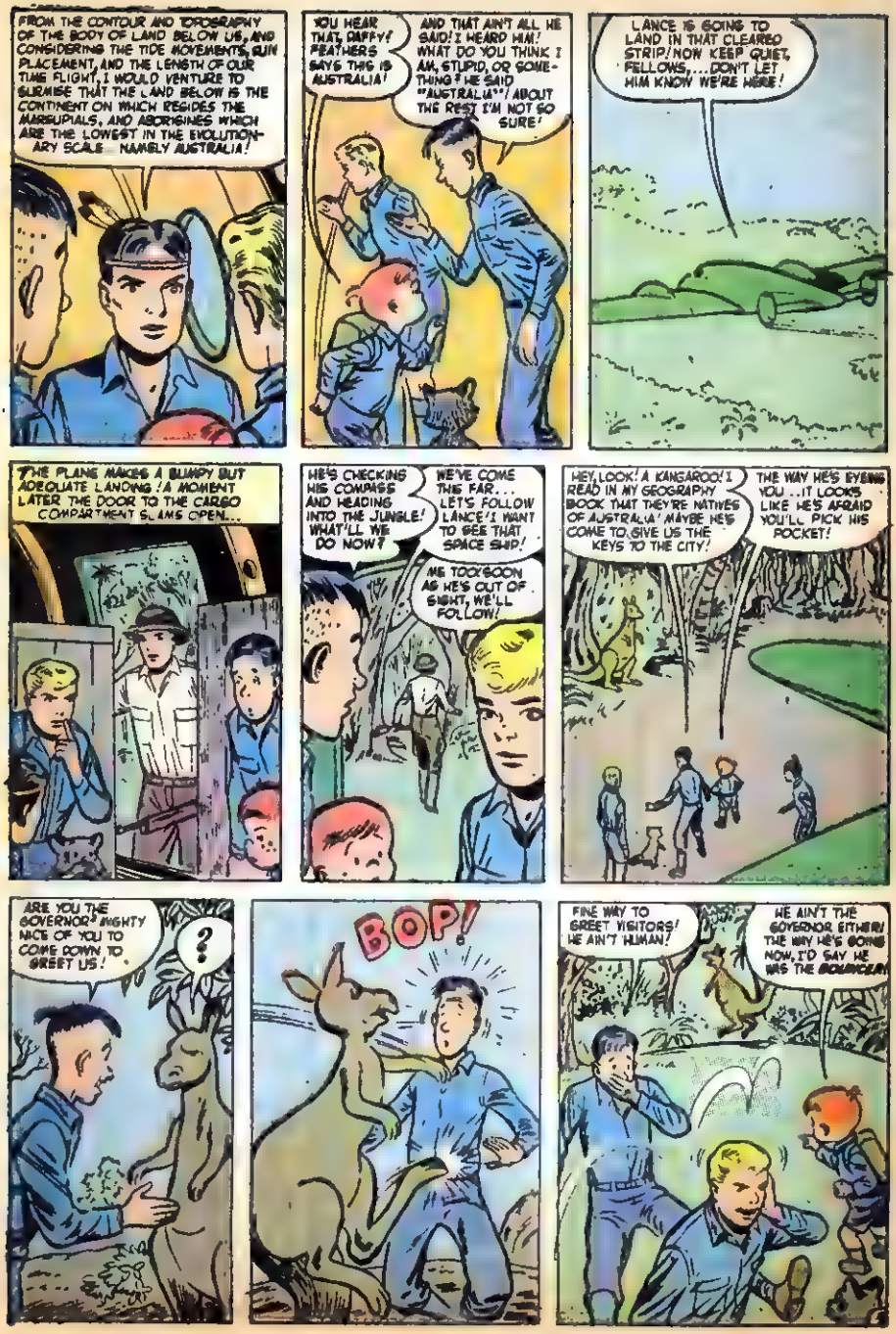

IF YOU'D GET A HAIRCUT, YOU'D BE ABLE TO SEE, BOMBER!
AW, I COULDN'T SEE A SPACE SHIP, HAIRCUT OR NOT! NOBODY'S EVER FLOWN OUT INTO SPACE YET, HAVE THEY, BOB?
MENACE

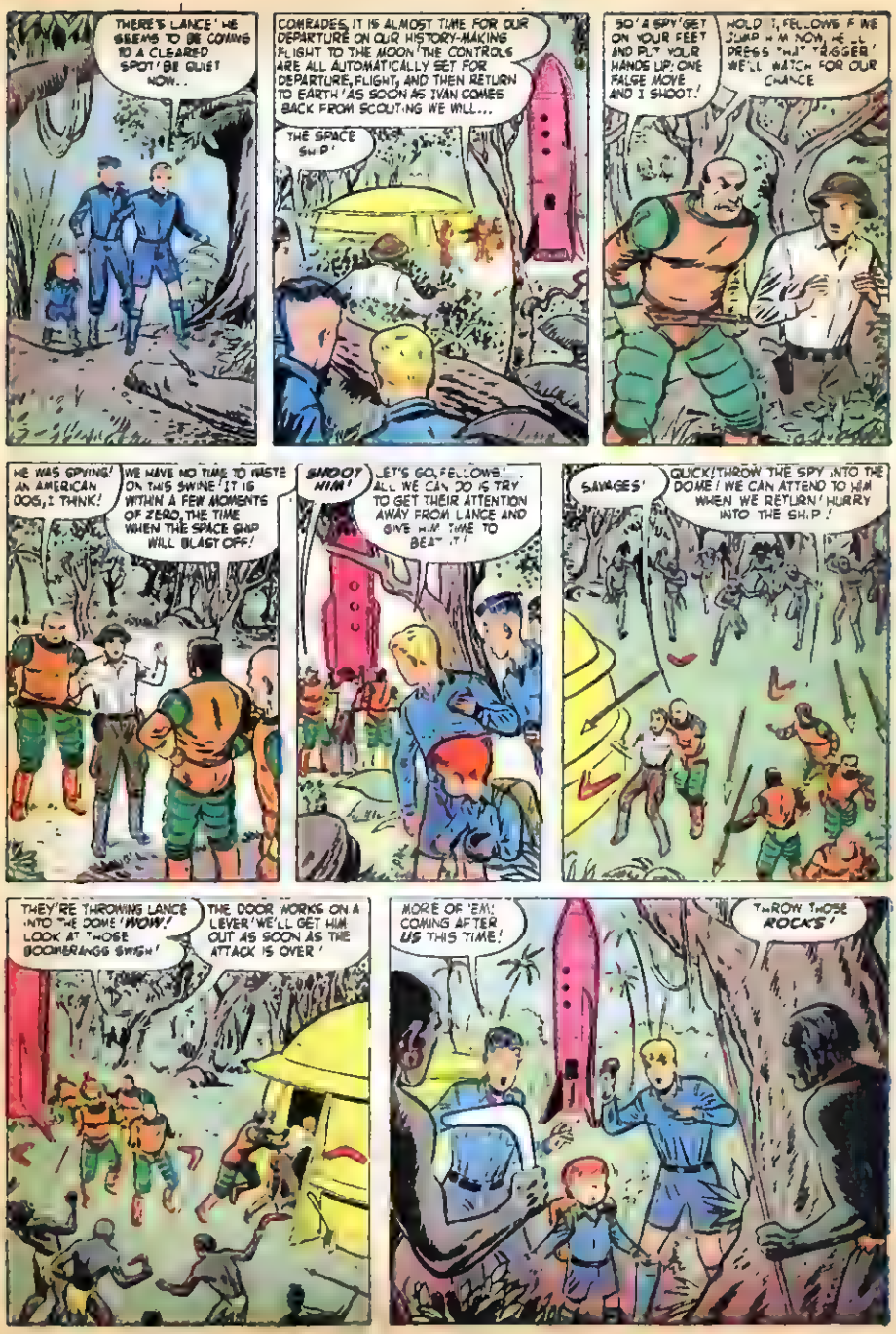

NO, BOMBER, NOT YET, BUT SOMEDAY SOON THEY WILL! JUST THINK, ONE OF THESE DAYS, A ROCKET WILL BLAST OFF AND SOME LUCKY ADVENTURER WILL BE THE FIRST MAN TO LAND ON THE MOON! WHAT A THRILL!
UGH!

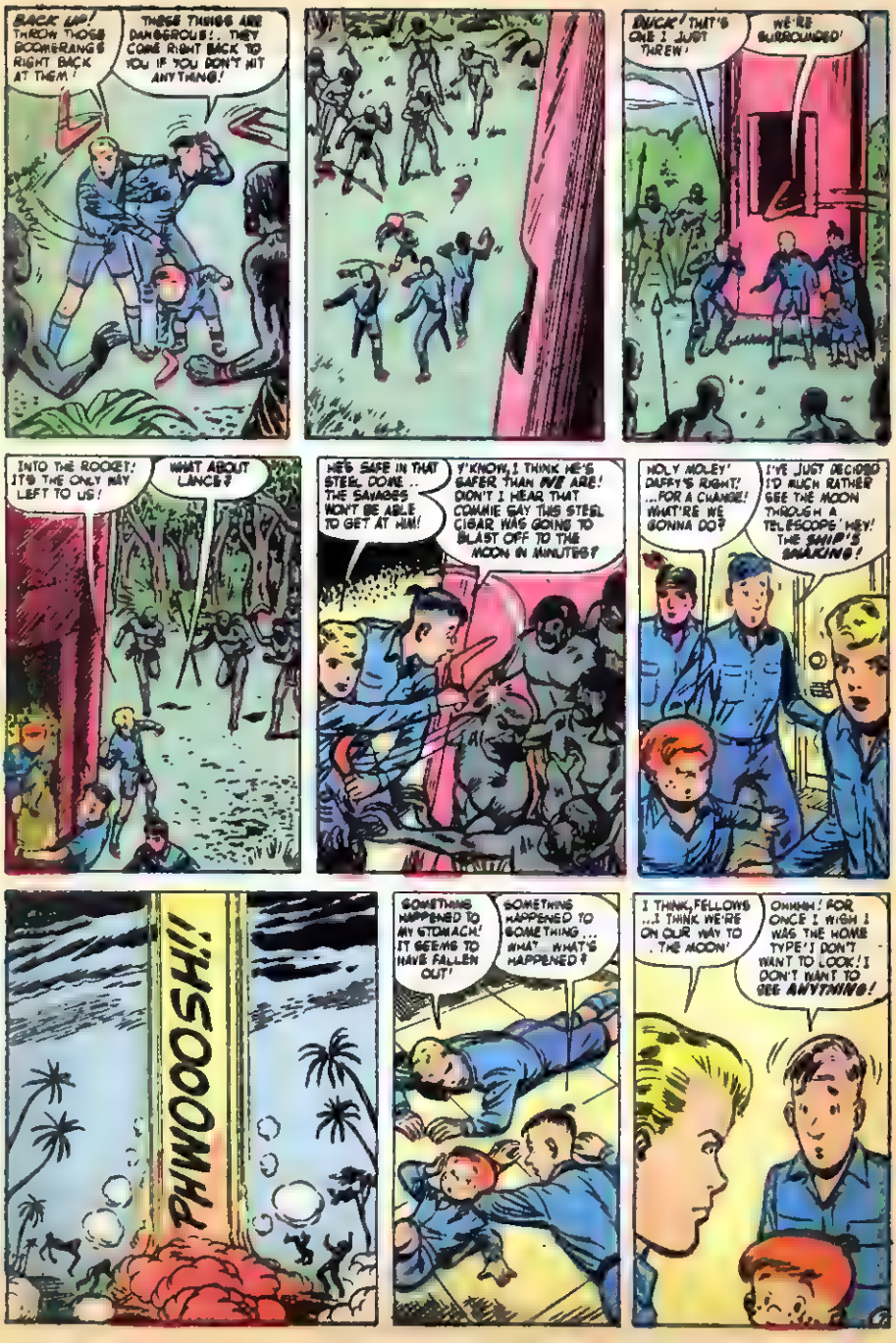
HMM! ALL THIS TALK OF SPACE REMINDS ME OF MY EMPTY STOMACH...I'M HUNGRY!
LET'S GO OVER TO MY HOUSE AND RAID THE ICEBOX!
MEANWHILE...IN A CITY BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN...
I HAVE HERE A TELEGRAM FROM OUR COMRADES IN THE AUSTRALIAN JUNGLE!
DOES ALL GO WELL?
SO FAR, ALL IS WELL! THE SPACE SHIP THEY ARE BUILDING IS ALMOST COMPLETED...BUT THEY REPORT THAT A PLANE OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN FLEW OVER THEIR SAFARI AS THEY ENTERED THE JUNGLE!
THAT IS NOT GOOD!
THE WHOLE PROJECT IS NONSENSE, SENDING OUR BEST SCIENTISTS TO AUSTRALIA TO BUILD A SPACE SHIP AND ATTEMPT TO FLY TO THE MOON AND CLAIM IT FOR COMMUNISM! THE BRAINS AND ENERGY OF THOSE MEN...THE MONEY SPENT, WOULD BE BETTER USED TO STRENGTHEN OUR ARMS TO FIGHT THE DEMOCRATIC SWINE!
COMRADE GENERAL, THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT IS TO AID US TO CONQUER THE CAPITALISTIC COUNTRIES! ONCE ON THE MOON WE CAN SET UP ROCKET STATIONS AND FROM OUT IN SPACE FIRE GUIDED MISSILES! FROM THERE THE WHOLE WORLD WOULD BE OUR TARGET, AND DEMOCRACIES WILL HAVE NO OTHER COURSE BUT TO THROW DOWN THEIR ARMS AND SURRENDER!
BAH! IT IS A FANTASTIC DREAM!
YES, IT IS A DREAM...A DREAM WE SHARE WITH ALL NATIONS, FOR WHICHEVER NATION FIRST LANDS ON THE MOON CONTROLS THE DESTINY OF EARTH! WE WILL MAKE THAT DREAM COME TRUE...
AND BACK IN THE GOOD OLD U.S.A....
THERE GOES YOUR DAD AND BROTHER INTO THE HOUSE, BOB! THEY SURE ARE IN A HURRY!
THEY'RE ALWAYS IN A HURRY! U.N. BUSINESS DOESN'T WAIT, YOU KNOW!
...AND THE LATEST REPORT IS THAT THOSE COMMIES ARE BUILDING SOME KIND OF ROCKET OR SPACE SHIP!
SPACE SHIP?
THE U.N. COUNCIL WANTS ME TO FLY THERE AND SEE WHAT'S GOING ON! I'M TO LEAVE AS SOON AS I CAN GET MY GEAR TOGETHER!
BE CAREFUL! THIS COULD BE A DANGEROUS MISSION!


JEEPERS! A SPACE SHIP! BOY, NOW I'D LIKE TO SEE IT!
ME, TOO! WONDER WHERE IT IS?
UGH!
LISTEN! I'VE GOT AN IDEA! LET'S GET OUR STUFF AND TAKE A HIKE OVER TO WHERE LANCE'S PLANE IS KEPT. MAYBE WE CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS!
THAT'S A SWELL IDEA I'LL GET MY KNAPSACK .... OOPSS!
OOOFF!
WHY DON'T YOU LOOK WHERE YOU'RE GOING?
WHY DON'T YOU LOOK WHERE I'M GOING? THEN YOU WOULDN'T BE IN MY WAY!
I'LL USE THE BIG PLANE! PUT ALL MY GEAR IN THE LOADING COMPARTMENT!
BOB, CAROL AND I ARE GOING OVER TO PACKERS FIELD TO SEE THE NEW JET PLANE DEMONSTRATION! WHY DON'T YOU FELLOWS COME ALONG?
ER... WE'D LIKE TO, BUT WE'VE PLANNED TO TAKE A HIKE! I WANT TO DO SOME.. UM.. BIRD STUDY!
LET THEM TAKE THEIR OLD HIKE, BESS! THERE'S ALWAYS DANGER OF ONE OF THE PLANES CRASHING INTO THE CROWD, AND BOB WILL BE SUPER HIKING AND STUDYING BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES!
BUT, CAROL, I
BOY, YOU SURE GO OVER BIG WITH CAROL! TOO BAD YOU HAVEN'T SOME OF MY MAGNETIC CHARM!
WONDER WHERE CAROL GETS THE IDEA THAT BOB'S A SISSY? GIRLS! ...PHOOEY!
WELL, LET'S GET GOING! LANCE'S PLANE IS IN THAT PRIVATE AIRPORT JUST OUTSIDE OF TOWN!
IF THAT SPACE SHIP ISN'T TOO FAR AWAY, MAYBE WE CAN SEE IT!
THERE'S THE AIRPORT AND THAT MUST BE LANCE'S PLANE THEY'RE GETTING READY!
SAY, MAYBE IF WE COULD SEE WHAT KIND OF GEAR HE'S TAKING ALONG WE COULD FIGURE OUT WHERE THE SPACE SHIP IS!
UGH!


THAT'S A GOOD IDEA! COME ON WHILE THOSE FELLOWS AREN'T LOOKING...
...GUNS... PITH HELMETS...
YOUR BROTHER'S GOING SOMEPLACE THAT'S TROPICAL FROM THE LOOKS OF THIS STUFF!
HEY! WHO FIRED THAT SHOT?
THAT WAS NO SHOT, YOU HAM-HEAD! THAT WAS SOMEBODY SLAMMING THE PORT DOOR SHUT!
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN OPEN IT! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE LANCE TAKES OFF!
SLAM!
HEY! WE'RE SHAKING THE WHOLE PLANE!
THAT'S NOT US! THAT'S THE MOTOR!
THE MOTOR! HOLY MOLEY.. THAT MEANS THE PLANE IS START NG!
IT'S MOVING... TAXING FOR THE TAKE-OFF! TOO LATE! WE CAN'T GET OFF!
LOOKS LIKE WHEREVER LANCE IS GOING, WE'RE GOING TOO!
MAYBE WE'LL SEE THAT SPACE SHIP AFTER ALL!
MAYBE WE'LL SEE STARS IF LANCE EVER CATCHES US IN HERE!
WELL, WHEREVER WE'RE GOING WE'RE ON OUR WAY!
THE PLANE RUSHES THROUGH THE SKY .. OVER LAND... OVER MOUNTAINS... OVER OCEANS...
HOW LONG SINCE WE TOOK OFF?
HOURS! I'VE LOST TRACK!
THEY SAY THESE HELMETS KEEP THE SUN OUT OF YOUR EYES SO YOU CAN SEE .. I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!
HEY! WE'RE BEGINNING TO COME DOWN! WHERE ARE WE?
THERE'S A JUNGLE DOWN THERE... A LARGE ISLAND, I THINK!

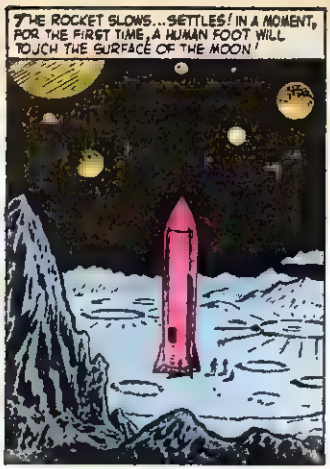

FROM THE CONTOUR AND TOPOGRAPHY OF THE BODY OF LAND BELOW US, AND CONSIDERING THE TIDE MOVEMENTS, SUN PLACEMENT, AND THE LENGTH OF OUR TIME FLIGHT, I WOULD VENTURE TO SURMISE THAT THE LAND BELOW IS THE CONTINENT ON WHICH RESIDES THE MARSUPIALS, AND ABORIGINES WHICH ARE THE LOWEST IN THE EVOLUTIONARY SCALE... NAMELY AUSTRALIA!
YOU HEAR THAT, DAFFY? FEATHERS SAYS THIS IS AUSTRALIA!
AND THAT AIN'T ALL HE SAID! I HEARD HIM! WHAT DO YOU THINK I AM, STUPID, OR SOMETHING? HE SAID "AUSTRALIA"! ABOUT THE REST I'M NOT SO SURE!
LANCE IS GOING TO LAND IN THAT CLEARED STRIP! NOW KEEP QUIET, FELLOWS,... DON'T LET HIM KNOW WE'RE HERE!
THE PLANE MAKES A BUMPY BUT ADEQUATE LANDING! A MOMENT LATER THE DOOR TO THE CARGO COMPARTMENT SLAMS OPEN...
HE'S CHECKING HIS COMPASS AND HEADING INTO THE JUNGLE! WHAT'LL WE DO NOW?
WE'VE COME THIS FAR... LET'S FOLLOW LANCE! I WANT TO SEE THAT SPACE SHIP!
ME TOO! SOON AS HE'S OUT OF SIGHT, WE'LL FOLLOW!
HEY, LOOK! A KANGAROO! I READ IN MY GEOGRAPHY BOOK THAT THEY'RE NATIVES OF AUSTRALIA! MAYBE HE'S COME TO GIVE US THE KEYS TO THE CITY!
THE WAY HE'S EYEING YOU ...IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S AFRAID YOU'LL PICK HIS POCKET!
ARE YOU THE GOVERNOR? MIGHTY NICE OF YOU TO COME DOWN TO GREET US!
?
BOP!
FINE WAY TO GREET VISITORS! HE AIN'T HUMAN!
HE AIN'T THE GOVERNOR EITHER! THE WAY HE'S GOING NOW, I'D SAY HE WAS THE BOUNCER!


THERE'S LANCE! HE SEEMS TO BE COMING TO A CLEARED SPOT! BE QUIET NOW..
COMRADES, IT IS ALMOST TIME FOR OUR DEPARTURE ON OUR HISTORY-MAKING FLIGHT TO THE MOON! THE CONTROLS ARE ALL AUTOMATICALLY SET FOR DEPARTURE, FLIGHT, AND THEN RETURN TO EARTH! AS SOON AS IVAN COMES BACK FROM SCOUTING WE WILL....
THE SPACE SHIP!
SO! A SPY! GET ON YOUR FEET AND PUT YOUR HANDS UP! ONE FALSE MOVE AND I SHOOT!
HOLD IT, FELLOWS! IF WE JUMP HIM NOW, HE'LL PRESS THAT TRIGGER! WE'LL WATCH FOR OUR CHANCE
HE WAS SPYING! AN AMERICAN DOG, I THINK!
WE HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE ON THIS SWINE! IT IS WITHIN A FEW MOMENTS OF ZERO, THE TIME WHEN THE SPACE SHIP WILL BLAST OFF!
SHOOT HIM!
LET'S GO, FELLOWS! ALL WE CAN DO IS TRY TO GET THEIR ATTENTION AWAY FROM LANCE AND GIVE HIM TIME TO BEAT IT!
SAVAGES!
QUICK! THROW THE SPY INTO THE DOME! WE CAN ATTEND TO HIM WHEN WE RETURN! HURRY INTO THE SHIP!
THEY'RE THROWING LANCE INTO THE DOME! WOW! LOOK AT THOSE BOOMERANGS SWISH!
THE DOOR WORKS ON A LEVER! WE'LL GET HIM OUT AS SOON AS THE ATTACK IS OVER!
MORE OF 'EM! COMING AFTER US THIS TIME!
THROW THOSE ROCKS!

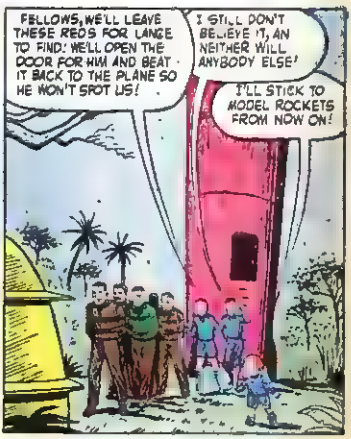

BACK UP! THROW THOSE BOOMERANGS RIGHT BACK AT THEM!
THESE THINGS ARE DANGEROUS!.. THEY COME RIGHT BACK TO YOU IF YOU DON'T HIT ANYTHING!
DUCK! THAT'S ONE I JUST THREW!
WE'RE SURROUNDED!
INTO THE ROCKET! IT'S THE ONLY WAY LEFT TO US!
WHAT ABOUT LANCE?
HE'S SAFE IN THAT STEEL DOME.. THE SAVAGES WON'T BE ABLE TO GET AT HIM!
Y'KNOW, I THINK HE'S SAFER THAN WE ARE! DION'T I HEAR THAT COMMIE GAY THIS STEEL CIGAR WAS GOING TO BLAST OFF TO THE MOON IN MINUTES?
HOLY MOLEY! DAFFY'S RIGHT! ...FOR A CHANGE! WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?
I'VE JUST DECIDED I'D MUCH RATHER SEE THE MOON THROUGH A TELESCOPE! HEY! THE SHIP'S SHAKING!
PHWOOSH!!!
SOMETHING HAPPENED TO MY STOMACH! IT SEEMS TO HAVE FALLEN OUT!
SOMETHING HAPPENED TO SOMETHING... WHAT... WHAT'S HAPPENED?
I THINK, FELLOWS ...I THINK WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO THE MOON!
OHHHH! FOR ONCE I WISH I WAS THE HOME TYPE! I DON'T WANT TO LOOK! I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYTHING!

JEEPERS, I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING...WE'RE LOCKED IN A ROCKET, ZOOMING THROUGH SPACE WITH THOSE COMMIE MONKEYS!
THAT AIN'T GOOD!
UGH!
LISTEN! I HEAR VOICES! THEY MUST BE IN THE NEXT COMPARTMENT! LET'S TAKE A LOOK!
I DON'T WANTA LOOK AT ANYTHING!
COMRADES, OUR GREAT ADVENTURE HAS BEGUN! ONCE WE REACH THE MOON, WE WILL CLAIM IT FOR RUSSIA! THEN THE NEXT FLIGHT WILL BRING MATERIALS TO BUILD A GUIDED ROCKET SITE! WE WILL MAKE THE DEMOCRACIES SURRENDER TO THE THREAT FROM OUTER SPACE AND SO CONTROL THE WORLD!
...SO THAT'S THE RACKET!
THEY'RE UNARMED! LET'S GO, FELLOWS!
WHOOO! HERE COME THE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS!
BE CAREFUL!...IF THAT LEVER FALLS IT WILL OPEN THE AIRLOCK DOOR AND ALL OUR AIR WILL RUSH OUT!
HAH! PUNY, SOFT AMERICAN BRATS! NOW I WILL CRUSH YOU!
HERE, COMRADE! HIT HIM WITH THIS!... THROW IT!
HAH! THIS WILL SMASH YOUR HEAD!
NOW WE WILL TAKE CARE OF THESE PESTS...
UGHHH!
DROP THAT GUN AND THE REST OF YOU STAND STILL, OR I'LL PULL THE LEVER AND LET THE AIR RUSH OUT OF HERE AND WE'LL ALL DIE!
CRASH!

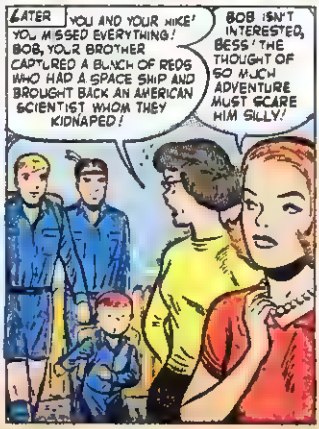
TIE THEM UP, FELLOWS! WE'LL SOON BE LANDING ON THE MOON! SAY, I'VE GOT AN IDEA! LET'S SEE IF WE CAN FIND SOME RED, WHITE, AND BLUE CLOTH!
I GET IT! I'VE GOT A SEWING KIT IN MY KNAPSACK!

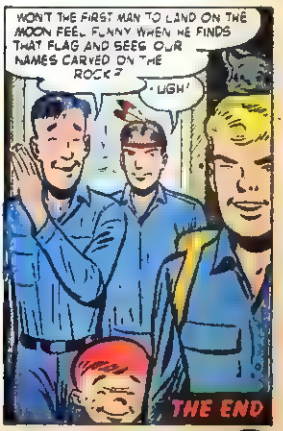


HEY, LISTEN! THIS SHIP IS BEGINNING TO VIBRATE! I REMEMBER HEARING THAT RED SAY IT HAD AN AUTOMATIC CONTROL FOR THE TAKE-OFF AND THE TRIP BACK TO THE EARTH! IT MUST BE GETTING READY TO START! LET'S GO!


FELLOWS, WE'LL LEAVE THESE REDS FOR LANCE TO FIND! WE'LL OPEN THE DOOR FOR HIM AND BEAT IT BACK TO THE PLANE SO HE WON'T SPOT US!
I STILL DON'T BELIEVE IT, AN NEITHER WILL ANYBODY ELSE!
I'LL STICK TO MODEL ROCKETS FROM NOW ON!

I WAS WORKING ON THE PLANS FOR THE SPACE SHIP FOR OUR GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON WHEN THE REDS KIDNAPED ME AND BROUGHT ME HERE AND FORCED ME TO...
LOOK, PROFESSOR! THE DOOR IS OPENING!
WHIRRRR!


LATER
YOU AND YOUR MIKE! YOU MISSED EVERYTHING! BOB, YOUR BROTHER CAPTURED A BUNCH OF REDS WHO HAD A SPACE SHIP AND BROUGHT BACK AN AMERICAN SCIENTIST WHOM THEY KIDNAPED!
BOB ISN'T INTERESTED, BESS! THE THOUGHT OF SO MUCH ADVENTURE MUST SCARE HIM SILLY!



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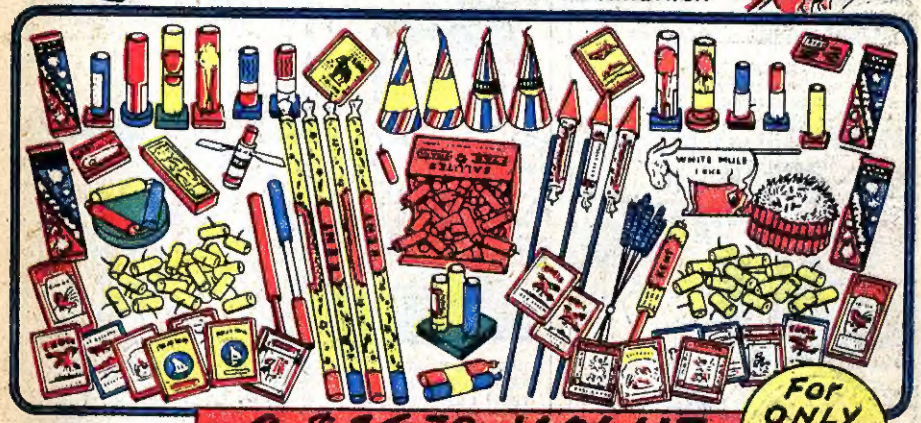

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Get your order in now and avoid the rush that is sure to come later. Fill out the convenient coupon today, or write on a piece of paper the number of assortments you want (1 or more). Sign your name and address and enclose Money Order or Certified Check for full amount. (No C O D Shipments.) All fireworks are sent Express

BANNER FIREWORKS CORPORATION • Dept. M-36
446 CAPISTRANO TOLEDO 12, OHIO

QUICK ACTION ORDER BLANK

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446 Capistrano Toledo 12, Ohio

Enclosed find _____ Send me _____ of your DeLuxe assortments by Express F O B Toledo

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Express Office if different from above _____

I WANTED TO BE AN ARTIST!

HOW I ENVIED THE ARTISTS AT THE FACTORY WHERE I WORKED! THEY GOT THREE TIMES MY PAY... AND FOR SUCH INTERESTING WORK. BUT HOW COULD I BECOME AN ARTIST? I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW FOR SURE IF I HAD REAL TALENT!
ART DEPARTME

IN A FEW DAYS MY FREE TALENT TEST CAME. I COULD HARDLY WAIT TO GET TO MY ROOM ALONE AND START THE TEST. IT WAS FUN TO TAKE... AND I LEARNED FROM IT, TOO.

THIS IS A FINE TEST. IT CERTAINLY SHOWS YOU HAVE VALUABLE TALENT. WE'LL TEACH YOU TO DEVELOP THAT TALENT OF YOURS IN YOUR SPARE TIME.
ALL I ASK IS A CHANCE!
LATER

NOW I'M A TRAINED PROFESSIONAL ARTIST. WELL-PAID, LOOKED UP TO, AND WITH A REAL FUTURE AND LOOK AT MY MODEL! LISTEN — IF YOU LIKE TO DRAW, YOU SHOULD TAKE THE FREE ART TALENT TEST, TOO.
YOU CAN! —

Find out if you have valuable art talent. Take the famous Free Talent Test. No charge. No obligation.

MAIL COUPON TODAY!

ART INSTRUCTION, INC.

Dept. 4943, 500 South 4th St.
Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please send me Free Art Talent Test.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____

County_____ State_____

Age_____ Phone_____

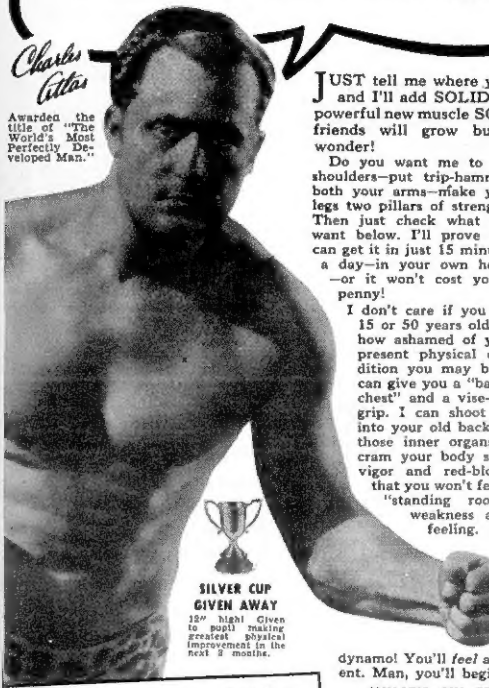
Occupation_____

Check the Kind of Body YOU Want! RIGHT IN THE COUPON BELOW

...and I'll Prove How EASILY You Can Have It!

Charles Atlas

Awarded the title of "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."



SILVER CUP GIVEN AWAY

12" high! Given to pupil making greatest physical improvement in the next 3 months.

JUST tell me where you want it—and I'll add SOLID INCHES of powerful new muscle SO FAST your friends will grow bug-eyed with wonder!

Do you want me to broaden your shoulders—put trip-hammer power in both your arms—make your legs two pillars of strength? Then just check what you want below. I'll prove you can get it in just 15 minutes a day—in your own home—or it won't cost you a penny!

ARE YOU
Skinny, Weak and run down?
Always tired?
Nervous?
Lacking in confidence?
Constipated?
Suffering from bad breath?
Fat and flabby?
Do you want to lose or gain weight?
WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT is told in my FREE BOOK

I don't care if you are 15 or 50 years old—or how ashamed of your present physical condition you may be. I can give you a "barrel chest" and a vise-like grip. I can shoot new strength into your old backbone, exercise those inner organs — help you cram your body so full of pep, vigor and red-blooded vitality that you won't feel there's even "standing room" left for weakness and that lazy feeling. I'll wake up that sleeping energy of yours and make it hum like a high-powered dynamo! You'll *feel* and *look* different. Man, you'll begin to LIVE!

WHAT'S MY SECRET?

"DYNAMIC TENSION"! That's the ticket! The identical natural method that I myself developed to change my body from the scrawny skinny chested weakling I was at 17 to my present superman physique! Thousands of other fellows are becoming marvelous physical specimens—my way. I give you no gadgets or contraptions to fool with.

When you have learned to develop your strength through *"Dynamic Tension"* you can laugh at the artificial muscle-makers. You simply utilize the DORMANT muscle-power in your own God-given body—watch it increase and multiply double-quick into real solid LIVE MUSCLE.

My method—*"Dynamic Tension"* will turn the trick for you. No theory—so easy! Spend only 15 minutes a day in your own home. From the very start you'll be using my method of *"Dynamic Tension"* almost unconsciously every minute of the day—walking, bending over, etc.—to BUILD THE MUSCLE and VITALITY you want. And *you'll* be using the method which many great athletes use for keeping in condition—prize fighters, wrestlers, baseball and football players, etc.

FREE Illustrated 32-Page Book. Just Mail the Coupon.

SEND NOW for my famous book, "Everlasting Health and Strength." (Over 3½ MILLION fellows have sent for it already.) It contains 32 pages, packed from cover to cover with actual photographs and valuable advice. Shows what *"Dynamic Tension"* has done for others, answers many vital questions. Page by page it shows what I can do for YOU.

This book is a real prize for any fellow who wants a better build. Yet I'll send you a copy absolutely FREE. Just glancing through it may mean the turning point in your whole life! Check the information you want (in the coupon below) and rush it to me personally. **CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 606, 115 East 23rd St., N. Y. 10, N. Y.**

Here's The Kind of Results I Get:

"I gained 11 lbs. and 4¼ inches on my chest, 3 inches on my arms. I am never constipated."
—Henry Neven, Canada

"I gained 34 lbs. and increased my chest 6 inches!"
—Stanley Lynn, Calif.

"What a difference! Have put 3½ inches on my chest (normal) and 2½ inches expanded."
—F. S., New York

"Gained 29 lbs. When I started your course I weighed 141. Now I weigh 170."
—T. K., New York

"The benefits are wonderful. The first week my arm increased one inch, my chest two inches."
—E. M., Conn.

"You changed me from a weakling to a real he-man. My chest has gone up 6 inches. I am a solid mass of muscle."
—J. W., Montana

CHARLES ATLAS, DEPT. 606
115 East 23rd St., New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Charles Atlas: Here's the kind of Body I Want:

(Check as many as you like)

- ☐ More Weight—Solid—in The Right Places
- ☐ Broader Chest and Shoulders
- ☐ More Powerful Arms and Grip
- ☐ Slimmer Waist and Hips
- ☐ Better Regularity, Digestion, Clearer Skin
- ☐ More Powerful Leg Muscles
- ☐ Better Sleep, More Energy

Send me absolutely FREE a copy of your famous book "Everlasting Health and Strength"—32 pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital health questions, and valuable advice. I understand this book is mine to keep and sending for it does not obligate me in any way.

Name_____ Age_____
(Please print or write plainly)

Address _____

City_____ State_____

☐ If under 14 years of age check here for Booklet A.

Reducing Specialist Says:

LOSE WEIGHT Where It Shows Most REDUCE MOST ANY PART OF THE BODY WITH

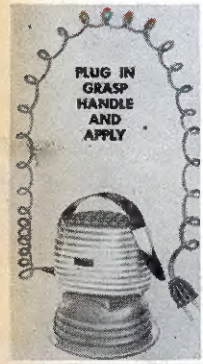
ELECTRIC Spot Reducer

Spot Reducer

Relaxing • Soothing Penetrating Massage

UNDERWRITERS LABORATORY APPROVED

FOR GREATEST BENEFIT IN REDUCING by massage use spot REDUCER with or without electricity—Also used as an aid in the relief of pains for which massage is indicated.



Take pounds off—keep slim and trim with Spot Reducer! Remarkable new invention which uses one of the most effective reducing methods employed by masseurs and turkish baths—MASSAGE!

TAKE OFF EXCESS WEIGHT!

Don't Stay FAT—You Can LOSE POUNDS and INCHES SAFELY Without Risking HEALTH

LIKE a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" obeys your every wish. Most any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the "Spot Reducer" can aid you in acquiring a youthful, slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steambaths, drugs or laxatives.

With the SPOT REDUCER you can now enjoy the benefits of RELAXING, SOOTHING massage in the privacy of your own home! Simple to use—just plug in, grasp handle and apply over most any part of the body—stomach, hips, chest, neck, thighs, arms, buttocks, etc. The relaxing, soothing massage breaks down FATTY TISSUES, tones the muscles and flesh, and the increased awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat—helps you regain and keep a firmer and more GRACEFUL FIGURE!

YOUR OWN PRIVATE MASSEUR AT HOME

When you use the Spot Reducer, it's almost like having your own private masseur at home. It's fun reducing this way! It not only helps you reduce and keep slim—but also aids in the relief of those types of aches and pains—and tired nerves that can be helped by massage! The Spot Reducer is handsomely made of light weight aluminum and rubber and truly a beautiful invention you will be thankful you own. AC 110 volts. Underwriters Laboratory approved.

MAIL THIS 10 DAY FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!

TRY THE SPOT REDUCER 10 DAYS FREE IN YOUR OWN HOME!

Mail this coupon with only $1 for your Spot Reducer on approval. Pay postman $8.95 plus delivery—or send $9.95 (full price) and we ship postage prepaid. Use it for ten days in your own home. Then if not delighted return Spot Reducer for full purchase price refund. Don't delay! You have nothing to lose—except ugly, embarrassing, undesirable pounds of FAT. MAIL COUPON now!

ALSO USE IT FOR ACHES AND PAINS

CAN'T SLEEP:

Relax with electric Spot Reducer. See how soothing its gentle massage can be. Helps you sleep when massage can be of benefit.

MUSCULAR ACHES:

A handy helper for transient relief of discomforts that can be aided by gentle, relaxing massage.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

USED BY EXPERTS

Thousands have lost weight this way — in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, necks, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in your spare time, in the privacy of your own room.

ORDER IT TODAY!

SENT ON APPROVAL—MAIL COUPON NOW!

SPOT REDUCER CO., Dept. B-410
318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

Please send me the Standard Model SPOT REDUCER for 10 days trial period. I enclose $1.00, upon arrival I will pay postman only $8.95 plus postage and handling. If not delighted I may return SPOT REDUCER within 10 days for prompt refund of full purchase price.

☐ I enclose $12.95. Send DeLux Model, postage pre-paid.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

☐ SAVE POSTAGE—check here if you enclose $12.95 for DeLux Model. We pay all postage and handling charges. Same money back guarantee applies.

☐ I enclose $9.95. Send Standard Model.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE